

On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Wednesday, July 3, 2013



People protest President Obama's signature health care initiative at the University of Denver, in Colorado. The Obama administration Tuesday, July 2, 2013, unexpectedly announced a one-year delay, until 2015, in a central requirement of the new health care law that medium and large companies provide coverage for their workers or face fines.

(Damon Winter/The New York Times)

GOP sees healthcare delay as 'repeal' campaign tool

JACKIE CALMES

ROBERT PEAR

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WASHINGTON - In a significant setback for President Barack Obama's signature domestic initiative, the administration on Tuesday abruptly announced a one-year delay, until 2015, in his health-care law's mandate that larger employers provide coverage for their workers or pay penalties. The decision postpones the effective date beyond next year's midterm elections.

Employer groups welcomed the news of the concession, which followed

complaints from businesses and was posted late in the day on the White House and Treasury websites while the president was flying home from Africa. Republicans' gleeful reactions made clear that they would not cease to make repeal of Obamacare a campaign issue for the third straight election cycle. While the postponement technically does not affect other central provisions of the law - in particular those establishing health-insurance marketplaces in the states, known as exchanges, where uninsured Americans can shop for policies

- it throws into disarray the administration's effort to put those provisions into effect by Jan. 1.

"I am utterly astounded," said Sara Rosenbaum, a professor of health law and policy at George Washington University and an advocate of the law. "It boggles the mind. This step could significantly reduce the number of uninsured people who will gain coverage in 2014."

Under the law, most Americans will be required to have insurance in January 2014, or they will be subject to tax penalties. The announcement Tuesday did

not say anything about delaying that requirement or those penalties.

Administration officials sought to put the action in a positive light in the online announcements, and they emphasized that the existing insurance coverage of most Americans would not be affected.

"We have heard concerns about the complexity of the requirements and the need for more time to implement them effectively," Mark J. Mazur, an assistant Treasury secretary, wrote on the department's website. "We recognize that the vast majority of businesses that will

need to do this reporting already provide health insurance to their workers, and we want to make sure it is easy for others to do so."

The 2010 Affordable Care Act required employers with more than 50 full-time workers to offer them affordable health insurance starting next year or face fines.

Some companies with payrolls just above that threshold said they would cut jobs or switch some full-time workers to part-time employment so that they could avoid providing coverage.

Continued on page 3

Egypt:

Defiant President Morsi says he won't step down

HAMZA HENDAWI

LEE KEATH

Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — His fate hanging in the balance, embattled President Mohammed Morsi vowed not to resign Tuesday, hours before a deadline to yield to the demands of millions of protesters or see the military suspend the constitution, disband parliament and install a new leadership.

The Islamist leader demanded that the powerful armed forces withdraw their ultimatum, saying he rejected all "dictates" — from home or abroad. Outside on the streets, the sense that both sides are ready to fight to the end sharpened, with clashes between his supporters and opponents that left at least 23 dead, most of them in a single incident of fighting outside Cairo University.

In an emotional speech aired live to the nation, Morsi, who a year ago was inaugurated as Egypt's first freely elected president, pledged to protect his "constitutional legitimacy" with his life. He accused loyalists of his ousted autocratic predecessor Hosni Mubarak of exploiting the wave of protests to topple his regime and thwart democracy.

"There is no substitute for legitimacy," said Morsi, who at times angrily raised his voice, thrust his fist in the air and pounded the podium. He warned that electoral and constitutional legitimacy "is the only guarantee against violence."

Morsi's defiant statement showed that he and his Muslim Brotherhood are prepared to run the risk of challenging the army. It also entrenches the lines of confrontation between his Islamist supporters and Egyptians angry over what they see as his efforts to impose control by his Muslim Brotherhood and his failures to deal with the country's multiple problems.

The crisis has become a struggle over whether a

popular uprising can overturn the verdict of the ballot box. Morsi's opponents say he has lost his legitimacy through mistakes and power grabs and that their turnout on the streets over the past three days shows the nation has turned against him.

For a third day Tuesday, millions of jubilant, chanting Morsi opponents filled Cairo's historic Tahrir Square, as

well as avenues adjacent to two presidential palaces in the capital, and main squares in cities nationwide. After Morsi's speech, they erupted in indignation, banging metal fences to raise a din, some raising their shoes in the air in a show of contempt. "Leave, leave," they chanted.

Morsi "doesn't understand. He will take us toward bloodshed and civil

war," said Islam Musbah, a 28-year-old protester sitting on the sidewalk outside the Ittihadiya palace, dejectedly resting his head on his hand. The president's supporters also moved out in increased marches in Cairo and other cities. Morsi's supporters have stepped up warnings that it will take bloodshed to dislodge him. While Morsi has stuck to a stance that he is defending

democracy in Egypt, many of his Islamist backers have presented the fight as one to protect Islam.

"Seeking martyrdom to prevent the ongoing coup is what we can offer as a sign of gratitude to previous martyrs who died in the revolution," Brotherhood stalwart Mohammed el-Beltagy wrote Tuesday in his official Facebook page. □



Plainclothes policemen walk with protesters opposed to Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi at the site of clashes with opposing protesters in the Kit Kat neighborhood of Giza, Egypt, Tuesday, July 2, 2013.

(AP Photo/Roger Anis, El Shorouk Newspaper)

Bolivian leader's plane rerouted on Snowden fear

CARLOS VALDEZ

Associated Press

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP) — The plane carrying Bolivian President Evo Morales home from Russia was rerouted to Austria on Tuesday after France and Portugal refused to let it cross their airspace because of suspicions that NSA leaker Edward Snowden was on board, the country's foreign minister said.

Foreign Minister David Choquehuanca denied that Snowden was on the plane, which landed in Vienna, and said France and Portugal would have to explain why they canceled

authorization for the plane. "We don't know who invented this lie."

We want to denounce to the international community this injustice with the plane of President Evo Morales," Choquehuanca said from La Paz.

Morales had earlier met with Russian President Vladimir Putin at a summit of major gas exporters in the Kremlin.

In an interview with Russia Today television, Morales said that his South American country would be willing to consider granting asylum to Snowden.

"This is a hostile act by the

United States State Department which has used various European governments," said Bolivian Defense Minister Ruben Saavedra, who was on the flight.

Choquehuanca said in a statement that after France and Portugal canceled authorization for the flight, Spain's government allowed the plane to be refueled in its territory. From there the plane flew on to Vienna.

He said the decision by France and Portugal "put at risk the life of the president."

Austrian Foreign Ministry

spokesman Alexander Schallenberg told The Associated Press that Snowden is not with Morales and that the Bolivian president is spending the night at a Vienna hotel.

Snowden has applied for asylum in Venezuela, Bolivia and 18 other countries, according to WikiLeaks, a secret spilling website that has been advising him. Many European countries on the list — including Austria, Finland, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain and Switzerland — said he would have to make his request on their soil. □

GOP sees healthcare delay as 'repeal' campaign tool

Continued from Front

Under the provisions to set up state-based marketplaces for coverage for uninsured Americans, subsidies are supposed to be available for lower- and middle-income people who qualify and are not insured through their employers. By delaying the mandate for businesses and its reporting requirements, the government may be unable to confirm before 2015 whether employers are offering insurance to their employees, making it difficult for the exchanges to know who is entitled to subsidies to help pay for policies.

"I do not see how people can receive premium subsidies if there are no reporting requirements for employers," said Rosenbaum, the health policy scholar. "The subsidies are bound up with evidence of what an employer does or does not offer."

Enrollment in the exchanges is to begin Oct. 1, with insurance coverage taking effect Jan. 1. "We are on target to open the health insurance marketplace on Oct. 1 where small busi-

nesses and ordinary Americans will be able to go to one place to learn about their coverage options and make side-by-side comparisons of each plan's price and benefits before they make their decision,"

Valerie Jarrett, Obama's senior adviser and liaison to the business community, wrote on the White House website.

Yet even some supporters of the law dispute that the establishment of the health

insurance exchanges is on schedule, especially since progress varies by state and some Republican-led states are resisting the health care law and withholding resources for putting it into effect.

Much of the administration's public effort, especially at the Department of Health and Human Services, has been directed toward spreading the word to uninsured Americans, especially younger and healthy people whose participation is needed to help keep down premiums for everyone else. About 85 percent of Americans are insured, so most individuals will be unaffected, at least initially. Behind the scenes, however, the administration has been fielding questions and criticisms from businesses about the reporting requirements - especially the Treasury Department, which has responsibility, given its oversight of the tax reporting system.

Employer groups were quick to applaud the delay. At the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which has strongly opposed the law, Randy Johnson, senior vice president of labor, im-

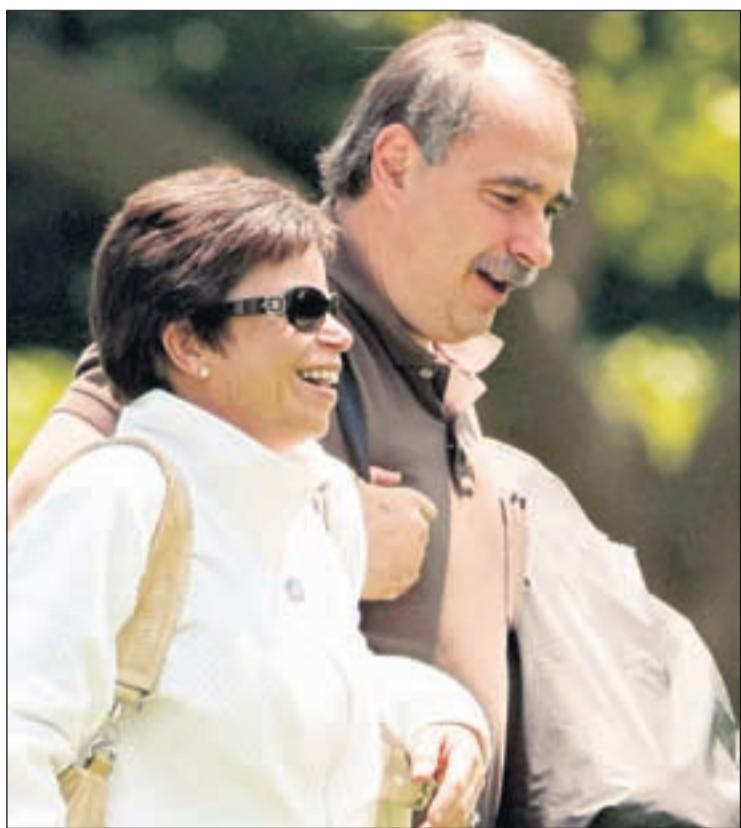
migration and employee benefits, said in a statement, "The administration has finally recognized the obvious - employers need more time and clarification of the rules of the road before implementing the employer mandate."

E. Neil Trautwein, a vice president of the National Retail Federation, said the delay "will provide employers and businesses more time to update their health care coverage without threat of arbitrary punishment." James A. Klein, president of the American Benefits Council, a lobby group for large employers, welcomed the "breathing room." Mazur, the Treasury official, said the delay "will allow us to consider ways to simplify the new reporting requirements consistent with the law." "Second," he added, "it will provide time to adapt health coverage and reporting systems while employers are moving toward making health coverage affordable and accessible for their employees."

Within the next week, Mazur said, Treasury will issue official guidance to insurers, self-insuring employers and other parties that provide health coverage. Formal rules will be proposed this summer, he added, but the administration will encourage employers to comply with the law's reporting provisions in 2014, as originally mandated.

Democrats were all but silent on the news, but a spokesman for Sen. Harry Reid of Nevada, the majority leader, released a statement late Tuesday. "Both the administration and Senate Democrats have shown - and continue to show - a willingness to be flexible and work with all interested parties to make sure that implementation of the Affordable Care Act is as beneficial as possible to all involved," the spokesman, Adam Jentleson, said. "It is better to do this right than fast."

But Republicans immediately reacted with statements claiming vindication for their efforts to repeal the law altogether. □



Senior advisers Valerie Jarret and David Axelrod in Washington. The Obama administration Tuesday, July 2, 2013, unexpectedly announced a one-year delay, until 2015, in a central requirement of the new health care law that medium and large companies provide coverage for their workers or face fines. Senior White House adviser Valerie Jarret cast the decision as part of an effort to simplify data reporting requirements.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

Investigators reaffirm 1996 crash was accident

WASHINGTON (AP) — Current and former U.S. officials who played key roles in the investigation of one of the nation's worst aviation disasters said they stand by their conclusion that the 1996 crash of TWA flight 800 near New York City was caused by an accidental fuel tank explosion — and not a bomb or missile.

The explosion and crash of the Boeing 747 on July 17, 1996, killed all 230 people on board.

Officials spoke to reporters at a briefing on the National Transportation Safety Board's four-year investigation into the crash.

The board took the usual step of organizing the briefing on an investigation that has been closed for years. That's in response to a new documentary film set to air this month that says new

evidence points to the often-discounted theory that a missile strike may have

gases in the plane's near-empty fuel tank caused the tank to explode. The gases



The seats, foreground, and the wreckage of TWA Flight 800 in a hangar in Calverton, N.Y. Current and former federal officials said Tuesday, July 2, 2013 they stand by their conclusion that the crash of flight 800 was caused by an accidental fuel tank explosion, and not a bomb or missile.

(AP Photo/ Ed Betz)

downed the jumbo jet. The officials dismissed allegations of a cover-up, saying the evidence points strongly to the board's conclusion that overheated

were most likely ignited by a spark from damaged wiring in a fuel measuring system.

Joseph Kolly, the current director of the board's Office

of Research and Engineering, was the chief fire and explosives investigator on the crash investigation. He said he is "absolutely" certain the fuel tank was the cause.

In their search for clues, investigators tested shoulder-fired missiles to see if they would show up on radar and used another 747 to replicate the overheating of fuel tank vapors, among other tests.

"I am upset about bringing this back up, for the sake of the people who lost folks in the accident," Kolly said. "It's not good."

But there have long been doubters.

They include three former investigators — one from the NTSB, one from TWA and one from the Air Line Pilots Association — who appear in the film. □

US intelligence chief sorry for 'erroneous' answer

KIMBERLY DOZIER

AP Intelligence Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Director of National Intelligence James Clapper apologized for telling Congress earlier this year that the National Security Agency does not collect data on millions of Americans, a response he now says was "clearly erroneous."

Clapper apologized in a letter to Senate Intelligence Committee Chairwoman Dianne Feinstein. His agency posted the letter Tuesday on its website. Leaks by former NSA systems analyst Edward Snowden have revealed the NSA's sweeping data collection of U.S. phone records and some Internet traffic every day, though

U.S. intelligence officials have said the programs are aimed at targeting foreigners and terrorist suspects mostly overseas.



National Intelligence Director James Clapper testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington. Clapper is apologizing for telling Congress earlier this year that the National Security Agency does not collect data on millions of Americans. In a letter to Senate Intelligence Committee Chairwoman Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., Clapper says his answer was "clearly erroneous."

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

Clapper was asked during a hearing in March by Sen. Ron Wyden, a Democrat on the Intelligence Committee, if the NSA gathered

"any type of data at all on millions or hundreds of millions of Americans."

At first, Clapper answered definitively: "No."

Pressed by Wyden, Clapper changed his answer. "Not wittingly," he said. "There are cases where they could inadvertently perhaps collect, but not wittingly."

Last month, in an interview with NBC News after revelations about the program, Clapper said: "I responded in what I thought was the most truthful, or least untruthful, manner" — because the program was classified.

In his letter to Feinstein, Clapper wrote that he was thinking about whether the NSA gathered the content of emails, rather than the metadata of the phone records — the record of calls

to and from U.S. citizens and the length of those phone calls.

"I realized later Sen. Wyden was asking about ... metadata collection, rather than content collection," Clapper wrote. "Thus, my response was clearly erroneous, for which I apologize."

Feinstein said in a statement Tuesday: "I have received Director Clapper's letter and believe it speaks for itself. I have no further comment at this time."

Wyden spokesman Tom Caiazza said Tuesday that when Wyden staffers contacted Clapper's office shortly after the hearing, his staffers "acknowledged that the statement was inaccurate but refused to correct the public record when given the opportunity." □

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US will start trade talks with EU despite scandal

RAF CASERT

Associated Press

WASHINGTON/BRUSSELS

(AP) — The European Union confirmed Tuesday that free-trade negotiations with the United States should kick off as planned next week, despite widespread concerns over the alleged eavesdropping of EU diplomats.

The Commission, the EU's executive branch that leads the negotiations on behalf of its 28 members, said the planned start of talks in Washington next Monday "should not be affected" by the surveillance scandal that has emerged in recent days.

However, it insisted that the trans-Atlantic atmosphere needed to clear up for the talks to be successful.

"For such a comprehensive and ambitious negotiation to succeed, there needs to be confidence, transparency and clarity among the negotiating partners," it said in a statement.

The talks are likely to take at least a few years.

The first week of technical negotiations start in Washington on Monday but po-

itical outrage over the U.S. eavesdropping allegations had raised questions over whether they would go ahead. On Sunday, an apparent leak from former U.S. intelligence systems analyst Edward Snowden in Germany's Der Spiegel magazine allegedly showed that the National Security Agency bugged the EU's diplomatic offices in Washington and infiltrated its computer network. The magazine said the NSA took similar measures to listen in on the EU's mission to the United Nations in New York, and also used its secure facilities at NATO headquarters in Brussels to dial into telephone maintenance systems that would have allowed it to intercept senior EU officials' calls and Internet traffic.

French President Francois Hollande on Monday suggested that the scandal could derail the free-trade negotiations. He insisted that the U.S. clarify the situation and end any possible eavesdropping immediately. There could be no negotiations unless Washington provided such guarantees, he insisted. □

Prosecutors in Zimmerman trial regret comments



Prosecutor Bernie de la Rionda, right, demonstrates a possible scenario while questioning state's witness Chris Serino, a Sanford police officer, during the George Zimmerman trial in Seminole circuit court, Tuesday, July 2, 2013 in Sanford, Fla. Zimmerman has been charged with second-degree murder for the 2012 shooting death of Trayvon Martin.

(AP Photo/Joe Burbank)

Cara Buckley

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SANFORD, Fla. - Prosecutors in the second-degree murder trial of George Zimmerman scrambled Tuesday to undo damage to their case by one of their leading witnesses, a Sanford police officer who interviewed the defendant hours after he fatally shot Trayvon Martin. The witness, Officer Chris Serino of the Sanford police, had testified under cross-examination Monday that Zimmerman seemed to be telling the truth when he said he had fired his gun in self-defense. The officer's remarks made for a dramatic moment in the trial - and clearly benefited the defense - but drew no immediate objection from the prosecutors. The court then recessed for the day. But early Tuesday, citing case law, the prosecution successfully argued that Serino's comments about Zimmerman's truthfulness should be disregarded by the jury. Serino's testimony, in the second week of the trial in Seminole County Court, was the latest setback for prosecutors, whose witnesses have repeatedly helped bolster the defense's case. Zimmerman has said he shot Martin, an unarmed 17-year-old, in self-defense he was attacked on a driz-

zly night in February 2012. Prosecutors say that Zimmerman, who identifies as Hispanic, racially profiled Martin, who was black, and followed the teenager through the townhouse complex where Zimmerman lived and Martin, of Miami, was visiting. On Monday, jurors watched and listened to audio and visual recordings of a calm and willing Zimmerman being interviewed by the police shortly after the shooting. One officer testified that Zimmerman had shown no trace of malice or ill intent. After prosecutors probed inconsistencies in Zimmerman's story - he said that Martin had jumped out of the bushes, although no bushes were found at the place he indicated - two police officers who took the stand said that the discrepancies were slight and that the broad narrative of self-defense offered by Zimmerman remained largely unchanged.

Mark Osterman, a federal air marshal who described Zimmerman as "the best friend I've ever had," and who wrote a book about the shooting, recounted Tuesday what Zimmerman told him about the events of Feb. 26, 2012, the day of the killing.

Osterman's account large-

ly matched what Zimmerman - who was photographed bleeding after the killing - told the police. There was one exception: Osterman's contention that, according to Zimmerman, Martin had grabbed his gun but that he managed to get it back. That contradicted Zimmerman's account to the police, in which he said Martin seemed to be reaching for his gun.

Other pieces of testimony may also have reflected poorly on Zimmerman. Serino, who took the stand again Tuesday, said the expletives that Zimmerman used as he was pursuing Martin connoted ill will - a necessary component in a second-degree murder conviction. □

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US to examine why wildfire killed 19 in elite team

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Associated Press

PREScott, Arizona (AP) —

Investigators from across the U.S. poured into an Arizona town to learn why 19 elite firefighters died in an out-of-control wildfire and whether human error played a role.

The investigation into the country's biggest loss of firefighters since Sept. 11, 2001, will look at whether the crew paid attention to the forecast, created an escape route and took other precautions developed after a similar disaster in Colorado nearly two decades ago.

The team also will look at whether the crew should have been pulled out before the fire exploded.

Within hours Sunday, violent wind gusts turned what was believed to be a rela-



In this photo shot by firefighter Andrew Ashcraft, members of the Granite Mountain Hotshots watch a growing wildfire that later swept over and killed the crew of 19 firefighters near Yarnell, Ariz., Sunday, June 30, 2013. Ashcraft texted the photo to his wife, Juliann, but died later that day battling the out-of-control blaze. The 29-year-old father of four added the message, "This is my lunch spot...too bad lunch was an MRE."

(AP Photo/Courtesy of Juliann Ashcraft)

tively manageable, lightning-ignited forest fire into a death trap. In a desperate attempt at survival, the firefighters unfurled their

foil-lined emergency shelters, but those offer only limited protection when in the direct path of a fire.

The lone survivor was serving as a lookout and relaying key information to his colleagues, officials said Tuesday.

Brendan McDonough, 21, notified the others that the weather was changing rapidly and that the fire had switched direction because of the wind. He told them he was leaving the area and to contact him on the radio if they needed anything, said Wade Ward, a Prescott Fire Department spokesman. Ward said McDonough "did exactly what he was supposed to." McDonough "has no desire to speak to anybody at this point," he added.

The federal government overhauled its safety procedures following the deaths of 14 firefighters in Colorado in 1994.

"There are so many striking parallels between this tragedy and what happened on Storm King in 1994, it's almost haunting," said Lloyd Burton, professor of environmental law and policy at the University of Colorado.

Those changes included policies under which no firefighters should be de-

ployed unless they have a safe place to retreat. They must also be continuously informed of changing weather.

The Hotshot team based in Prescott entered the smoky wilderness over the weekend with backpacks, chainsaws and other heavy gear to remove brush and trees and deprive the flames of fuel. But the blaze grew from 200 acres (80 hectares) to about 2,000 (800 hectares) in a matter of hours.

Dick Mangan, a retired U.S. Forest Service safety official and consultant, said it is too early to say if the crew or those managing the fire made mistakes. He said the crew members may have taken too many risks because they were on familiar ground and were trying to protect a community they knew well. On Tuesday, about 500 firefighters battled the mountain blaze, which had burned about 13 square miles (33 sq. kilometers). □

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US Financial Front:

Auto sales maintain momentum, led by pickups

DEE-ANN DURBIN

AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — Three years ago, U.S. car buyers started trickling back into showrooms after largely sitting out the recession. That trickle has turned into a flood.

From owners of revitalized small businesses that need to replace aging pickups to new hires who need a fresh set of wheels for the daily commute, increasingly confident buyers pushed auto sales back to pre-recession levels in the first six months of this year. Sales in the January-June period topped 7.8 million, their best first half since 2007, according to Autodata Corp. and Ward's AutoInfoBank. Automakers reported June sales Tuesday. They rose 9 percent to 1.4 million.

The outlook for the rest of 2013 is just as strong. The factors boosting sales — low interest rates, wider credit availability, rising home construction and hot new vehicles — will be around for a while, and experts are hard-pressed for answers when asked what could slow things down.

"It all points to continuing improvement in the auto market," said Mustafa Mohatarem, General Motors' chief economist.

Analysts expect total sales of around 15.5 million cars and trucks in 2013, which would be 1 million more than in 2012. New cars and trucks sold at an annualized rate of 15.96 million in June, the fastest monthly pace since December 2007. From January to May, the pace averaged 15.2 million, according to Jessica Caldwell, a senior analyst at car buying site Edmunds.com.

Demand for big pickups has been the driving force. GM, Ford and Chrysler sold 157,480 full-size pickup trucks combined in June. That is up around 25 percent from the same month a year ago and almost double the number the companies sold in June 2009, a year when total sales sank to a 30-year low. GM said its new Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra, which went on sale last month, are spending just 10 days on dealer lots before being sold. A 60-day stay is typical.

The pickup boom helps everyone, but especially the Detroit automakers, which sell the vast majority of trucks. And prices are rising as automakers add fancier features. Pickup trucks sold for an average \$40,361 in June, up 2 percent from last year, according to Kelley Blue Book.

But trucks weren't the only thing driving sales. Small and subcompact cars sales were also strong, possibly because young graduates went shopping for a new car, said Kelley Blue Book analyst Alec Gutierrez. Relatively high gas prices also may have steered some buyers to more fuel-efficient models, he said. Gas averaged \$3.60 a gallon nationwide in June, or 10 cents more than a year ago.

Sales of Ford's recently updated Fiesta subcompact more than doubled, while the Hyundai Elantra small car saw a 22-percent gain. Family-haulers also did well to start the summer road trip season. Honda said sales of its Odyssey minivan jumped 26 percent. The Toyota RAV4 SUV was up 36 percent, while sales of the

Jeep Grand Cherokee SUV rose 33 percent.

Consumer confidence hit

a six-year high in June. And the Standard & Poor's 500 index had its best first

half since 1998, up 12.6 percent. Those measures correlate strongly to auto sales, since people have to feel optimistic and financially secure before buying a car.

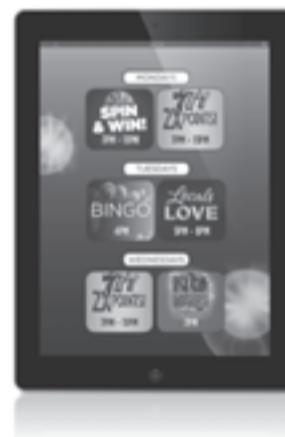
At the same time, rates on auto loans remained near historic lows in June. The rate on a four-year new-car loan is averaging 2.7 percent, according to Bankrate.com.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke has pledged to keep short-term interest rates at record lows until the unemployment rate hits 6.5 percent, if not longer. The unemployment rate is currently 7.6 percent. □



A new Dodge RAM 1500 pickup truck is for sale at an auto dealership in Springfield, Ill. US auto sales in the January-June period topped 7.8 million, their best first half since 2007, according to Autodata Corp. and Ward's AutoInfoBank.

(AP Photo/Seth Perlman)



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ARUBA**In Africa, Obama's ventures competed with history****JULIE PACE****AP White House Correspondent**

DAR ES SALAAM, Tanzania (AP) — Everywhere he went in Africa, President Barack Obama was competing with history.

There was the heroic leadership of former South African President Nelson Mandela, whose deteriorating health has captured the world's attention; the legacy in Africa of Obama's predecessor, George W.

Bush, who created a widely praised program to fight HIV and AIDS on the continent; and the history surrounding Obama himself, America's first black president and the son of a Kenyan man.

Against that backdrop, the initiatives Obama promoted on food security, improved health care and expanded access to electricity appeared to pale in comparison.

The president at times seemed to be trying to will the traveling press corps and the American public back home to grasp the importance of the ventures.

He took jabs at the U.S. media for only covering poverty or war in Africa and made a rare on-the-record appearance before reporters on Air Force One to give an extra boost to his program for reducing hunger.

"I know that millet and maize and fertilizer doesn't always make for sexy copy," Obama said during an event in Dakar, Senegal, last week. "If the American people knew the kind of work that was being done as a consequence of their generosity and their efforts, I think they'd be really proud."

The president's frustration underscored the challenges he faced during his three-country trip, which wrapped up Tuesday in Tanzania.

While his Africa policies have the potential to improve the lives of millions of people on the continent, he lacks a signature initiative like Bush's anti-AIDS program, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. But with deep family ties to the continent and inevitable comparisons to Mandela's racial barrier-breaking, the expectations for him among Africans remain exceedingly high.

"Your success is our success. Your failure, whether you like it or not, is our failure," Archbishop Desmond Tutu told Obama during his

weekend stop in South Africa.

Perhaps resigned to those high expectations and historic comparisons, Obama at times embraced them during his most significant travel to Africa since taking office.

Despite his policy differences with Bush, Obama repeatedly praised the former president's work combating HIV and AIDS, while also reminding audiences that his administration has increased the number of people benefitting from the PEPFAR program. During a news conference in Tanzania, Obama said Bush deserved "enormous credit" for saving lives in Africa and called PEPFAR one of the former president's "crowning achievements."

And when a scheduling coincidence put both Obama and Bush in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday for separate trips, the two leaders made a rare joint appearance on foreign soil, laying a wreath at a memorial for victims of the 1998 U.S. Embassy bombing in Tanzania. Similarly, Obama made Mandela's legacy a central part of his visit to South Africa, the country the anti-apartheid hero led out of decades of white racist rule.

The president made an emotional visit to Robben Island, the prison where Mandela spent 18 of his 27 years in captivity, and met privately with the ailing 94-year-old's family.

Obama also made fulfilling Mandela's vision of equality and opportunity for Africa a central theme of the trip's keynote speech at the University of Cape Town. And he tried to cast his own development agenda in Africa as part of fulfilling that legacy. □



U.S. President Barack Obama and former U.S. president George W. Bush pause for a moment of silence during a wreath laying ceremony to honor the victims of the U.S. embassy bombing on Tuesday, July 2, 2013, in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. The president is traveling in Tanzania on the final leg of his three-country tour in Africa.

(AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

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Kerry heading home, eager to return to Jerusalem

DEB RIECHMANN
 Associated Press

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan (AP) — The secretary of state's plane headed east toward Washington Tuesday on the final leg of a 22,500-mile trip through Asia and the Middle East.

But for John Kerry, sleepless and hoarse from days of diplomacy, the plane was flying in the wrong direction. Having gained traction on a fragile plan to coax Israel and the Palestinians back into peace talks, Kerry didn't want to go east. He wanted to go west — back to Israel and the West Bank to bring the two sides closer together. After four days of shuttling between meetings with both parties in Jordan, Israel and the West Bank, Kerry declared in Tel Aviv that with a little more work, he believed final status negotiations could be "within reach." Kerry said if he hadn't had to attend an Asian conference in Brunei, he would have stayed in the Mideast to try to hammer out an agreement to restart the talks aimed at finding a two-state solution to the decades-long conflict. It's a feat that has eluded many leaders and diplomats who have walked the mined path of Mideast diplomacy before, but it's one that would seal Kerry's legacy as secretary of state. There were other takeaways on his two-week journey through seven countries: He reported having inched U.S. and Russia closer together toward finding a political solution to the bloodshed in Syria. And he worked with U.S. allies in the Gulf to coordinate military and other aid streaming into Syria to help the rebels trying to oust Syrian President

Bashar Assad.

In Qatar, he expressed support for U.S. talks with the Taliban to help end the war in Afghanistan, while saying the militant group needed to prove its seriousness to negotiate. In New Delhi, he worked to strengthen already strong U.S. relations with India, despite disagreements over trade and commerce. At his last stop in Brunei, Kerry reaffirmed the Obama administration's so-called pivot toward Asia and reiterated the administration's tough stance against North Korea's nuclear ambitions. The nearly three-year civil war in Syria, which has claimed more than 93,000 lives, took the spotlight in Kerry's talks with Arab leaders and his sit-down with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov Tuesday on the sidelines of the security conference in Brunei. Kerry said he and Lavrov talked about ways to organize an international conference in Geneva, which would follow up on one last year that called for the formation of a transitional government for Syria.

The U.S. wants to smooth over differences it has with Russia, a key backer of Assad, but many differences remain. Kerry offered no public comment about who would be represented at the so-called "Geneva II" conference, or what role the Assad regime would play in any transitional government that could be established. There was no public talk about Iran, which has been backing Assad's forces against the rebels, would attend the conference or how the opposition would be represented.

"We agreed that we are both serious, more than

serious, committed to the Geneva process," Kerry said at the U.S. Embassy in Brunei. "We both agreed that our countries have an ability to be able to make a difference if we can pull together in that effort. ... We narrowed down some of the options with respect to the potential of that conference. We both agreed that that conference should happen sooner than later." He added, however, that scheduling difficulties probably delay any conference until August or later. But the main substance of the trip was the more than 19 hours of



The plane carrying U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry refuels in Anchorage, Alaska on Tuesday, July 2, 2013, en route to Washington.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

discussions Kerry and his advisers had with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas. □

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North Korea seeks talks with US to ease tensions

HYUNG-JIN KIM
Associated Press

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Brunei (AP) — North Korea's top diplomat said Tuesday that the U.S. must accept its offer for dialogue without preconditions if it wants to ease tensions on the divided Korean Peninsula. He drew a quick rebuttal from his South Korean counterpart, who said the international community has made clear that Pyongyang must give up its nuclear ambitions if it wants better relations.

The Koreas were among 27 nations at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Forum in Brunei, where the North's nuclear weapons program was a key topic, along with other hot-button regional issues

such as South China Sea territorial disputes. Asia's largest security forum includes the U.S., North Korea and the four other countries involved in long-stalled nuclear talks on ending North Korea's nuclear ambitions in return for aid.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said Monday that the U.S., South Korea, Japan and China — North Korea's chief ally — were "absolutely united" in their insistence on a denuclearized North Korea. Washington says Pyongyang must move in that direction before it will agree to talks, but North Korean Foreign Minister Pak Ui Chun said during the conference Tuesday that it is America that must act.

"The U.S. must positively re-

spond to our sincere and courageous decision (to offer talks) without preconditions if it is truly interested

in ending the vicious circle of intensifying tension on the Korean Peninsula and safeguarding peace and

stability," Pak said, according to North Korean delegation official Choe Myong Nam.

Pak said that "a touch-and-go situation in which a war can break out anytime is fostered" on the Korean Peninsula, and that U.S. hostility against the North was primarily responsible for that, Choe told reporters. Pak said the U.S. must sign a peace treaty with North Korea to formally end the 1950-53 Korean War and lift sanctions against the country, saying the North Korean nuclear standoff won't be resolved unless the U.S. changes its tone, according to Choe. The war ended with a cease-fire, not a peace treaty. □



China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi, left, holds the hands of North Korea's Foreign Minister Pak Ui Chun during a group photo session for the 20th ASEAN Regional Forum Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei, Tuesday, July 2, 2013.

(AP Photo/Vincent Thian)

Interpol operation seizes drugs in Caribbean

DAVID McFADDEN
Associated Press

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — The international police agency Interpol has led an operation in the Caribbean and Central America that seized roughly \$822 million worth of cocaine and other drugs and led to 142 arrests, law enforcement authorities in Europe announced Tuesday.

The Europol police agency supported the Interpol-led initiative dubbed "Operation Lionfish" targeting maritime drug and gun smugglers across the two regions. It involved some 34 countries and territories, including some 20 Caribbean nations, as well as countries in Central America.

The Netherlands-based Europol said coordination units were based at Interpol's bureau in El Salvador and the command center of the French West Indies Coast Guard on the island of Martinique. During the

anti-smuggling operation between May 27 and June 10, authorities were able to share information and conduct speedy checks against the Interpol and Europol intelligence databases to cross-check suspicious vessels and cargo containers and then select them as targets to be tracked and boarded.

Patrols were conducted by land and sea. Regional police, customs, immigration and naval forces participated in the international effort to combat organized crime groups behind narcotics and illicit weapons smuggling in the Caribbean and Central America.

Besides confiscating drugs and making arrests, Interpol said the operation targeting maritime smuggling by criminal networks also resulted in the seizure of 15 vessels, 42 guns, \$170,000 in cash and 8 tons of chemical precursors used to manufacture cocaine.

Michael O'Connell, Interpol's director of operational support, said in a Tuesday statement that the initiative also focused on strengthening law enforcement cooperation in the region. He said France-based Interpol's global services are providing frontline officers with the "tools they need to do their job, which is to identify and arrest criminals." Paul Noel of the St. Lucia-headquartered Caribbean Customs Law Enforcement Council said the initiative helped speed up the process in identifying drug-and-gun traffickers because "we can do the joint checks right here if there is a suspect target in the Caribbean." The Caribbean council and the World Customs Organization were partners in the anti-smuggling operation, which was also supported by the French Coast Guard and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. □

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2 face terror charges after Canada Day bombs found



An evidence photo showing a set of pressure cookers is displayed as Assistant Commissioner Wayne Rideout speaks during a news conference in Surrey, B.C., on Tuesday, July 2, 2013.

(AP Photo/Darryl Dyck)

JEREMY HAINSWORTH

Associated Press

SURREY, British Columbia (AP) — Police in Canada have arrested and charged a man and woman with terrorism for attempting to leave pressure cooker bombs at British Columbia's provincial legislature on Canada Day, when thousands of people were expected to be there.

John Stewart Nuttall and Amanda Marie Korody were inspired by al-Qaida ideology but were self-radicalized, Royal Canadian Mounted Police Assistant Commissioner James Malizia said Tuesday. He called it a domestic threat without

international connections. Malizia told a news conference there was no evidence or indication to suggest a connection to the deadly Boston Marathon bombings in April, which used bombs made from pressure cookers.

RCMP Supt. Wayne Rideout said the public was never at risk, and the threat was detected early.

Nuttall and Korody were arrested Monday, the same day that thousands attended the Canada Day celebrations at the provincial legislature in the provincial capital of Victoria. Police said the pair targeted the celebrations, but the

couple was never charged with terrorism.

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bombs were found outside the legislature before the crowds gathered.

"This self-radicalized behavior was intended to create maximum impact and harm to Canadian citizens at the B.C. legislature on a national holiday," Rideout said. "They took steps to educate themselves and produce explosive devices designed to cause injury and death."

The pair has been charged with conspiracy, facilitating a terrorist activity and making an explosive device.

"A day after thousands of patriotic Canadians gathered on these grounds to celebrate the founding of our nation, I'm incredibly relieved to know that there was never any risk to

anyone," British Columbia Premier Christy Clark said Tuesday. "We're also told that the suspects have no ties to any groups inside or outside Canada.

Again, an incredible relief that these two individuals appeared to be working alone."

Rideout stressed the pressure cooker devices were under police control and were inert.

Nuttall and Korody made a brief court appearance Tuesday and return July 9 for a bail hearing. Tom Morino, Nuttall's lawyer, said the two are a couple. "They refer to each other as husband and wife," Morino told The Associated Press. "It may be a common-law relationship." □

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Strong quake in western Indonesia kills 6

FAKHRURRADZIE GADE

Associated Press

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia

(AP) — A strong earthquake felled buildings and caused landslides in western Indonesia, killing at least six people and injuring more than 200 others. More than 300 houses and buildings were damaged across Aceh province, and rescuers were looking for people trapped in the debris.

The magnitude-6.1 quake struck Tuesday afternoon at a depth of just 10 kilometers (6 miles) and was centered 55 kilometers (34 miles) west of the town of Bireun on the western tip of Sumatra island, the U.S. Geological Survey said.

Five people were killed and 70 others were injured by a landslide or collapsing buildings in Bener Meriah, the worst-hit area, said Sutopo Purwo Nugroho of the National Disaster Mitigation Agency. He said two people were missing in the landslide.

Another person was killed and 140 injured in neighboring Central Aceh district, Nugroho said.

At least 25 of the injured in Bener Meriah were hospitalized in intensive care, deputy district chief Rusli M. Saleh said.

"We are now concentrating on searching for people who may be trapped under the rubble," Saleh said.

More than 100 houses and buildings were damaged in the district, he said.

"I see many houses were damaged and their roofs fell onto some people," said Bensu Elianita, a 22-year-old resident of Bukit Sama village in Central Aceh district. "Many people were injured, but it is difficult to evacuate them due to traffic jams."

She said people in the vil-

lage ran out of their homes in panic and screamed for help.

At least two houses were totally flattened, she said, and the power failed in the village.

The quake also caused concern among officials attending a meeting of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum in Medan, the capital of neighboring North Sumatra province.

They were escorted from the second-floor meeting room by security officers.

Indonesia is prone to seismic upheaval due to its location on the Pacific Ring of Fire, an arc of volcanoes and fault lines encircling the Pacific Ocean.

In 2004, a magnitude-9.1 earthquake off Aceh triggered a tsunami that killed 230,000 people in 14 countries. □



Earthquake victims receive medical treatment outside a community health center in Bener Meriah, Aceh province, Indonesia, Tuesday, July 2, 2013.

(AP Photo/Ahmad Ariska)

Cuba announces shakeup of party leadership

HAVANA (AP) — Cuba's president has announced the removal of former Parliament chief Ricardo Alarcon and several other leaders from the Communist Party's powerful Central Committee.

In comments broadcast on state-television Tuesday,

Raul Castro made clear that those leaving the 118-strong committee had not made any mistakes or committed any crimes. He said they were moving on in the normal course of events.

"This door leads out, without it constituting any de-

merit," Castro said. He spoke at a previously unannounced meeting of the Central Committee.

Alarcon, 76, was one of Cuba's most visible politicians and the point person for relations with the United States. He stepped down as parliament chief in Fe-

bruary.

Among the others removed were Jose Miguel Barreco, 81, who was secretary of the Council of State for three decades, and Misael Enamorado, 60, the party chief in Santiago de Cuba. □

Police find body of suspect in bar kidnappings

A. GOMEZ LICON

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Police found the burned body of one of the main suspects in last month's abduction of 12 young people from an after-hours bar in Mexico City, prosecutors said Tuesday.

The body of Dax Rodriguez Ledezma was found along with his girlfriend and another person in the town of Huitzilac in Morelos state. All the bodies had been burned, Mexico City prosecutors said in a statement.

Officials said he was identified through DNA compared to his brother, Mario Rodriguez Ledezma, who has been arrested and charged in the kidnappings.

Authorities didn't say when the bodies were found or give any other details, but 10 days ago the attorney general's office in neighboring Morelos state reported police had found the burned bodies of two women and a man on a dirt road in Huitzilac with their heads covered in duct tape.

Dax Rodriguez Ledezma was a co-owner of Heaven, the after-hours bar from which the group was abducted May 26.

Another partner, Ernesto Espinosa Lobo, was arrested Friday for questioning.

A total of seven people have been detained in the case. Witnesses told police Rodriguez Ledezma was at the bar the day of the kidnapping.

Surveillance tape shows men herding the young people, a few of them at a time, into compact cars. They haven't been heard from since. □

LOCAL Aruba TODAY

Artist Trudy Lampe is Caribbean Queen for July 2013!

PALM BEACH - We are proud to introduce our Caribbean Queen for July 2013, local artist Trudy Lampe, who prominently displays her beautiful African Caribbean Driftwood Masks in our boutique this month.

Trudy was born in the fishing village of Savaneta, in southwestern Aruba. Her interest in art began at a very early age, as she hails from a creative family, her dad being a talented musician.

In 1976 she took her first pottery course. She continued exploring the art and developing her technique in the Netherlands at Sticusa, a Dutch foundation for the arts, for a period of two years. In 1978, she came back to Aruba to work at the not-for-profit Fundacion Artesania Arubano, teaching all she had learned overseas to young students, some of them handicapped.

In 1980 she started her own pottery studio, producing a variety of artisan products, targeting tourists as potential clients. At the same time she was also inspired to paint Aruban landscapes on her ceramic pieces. As the demand for her work grew, she experimented with paint on different materials, such as driftwood, and having always been an admirer of African and Indian masks,



she was moved to combine those images with Caribbean themes, creating her signature African-Caribbean masks.

Trudy favors the use of bright colors, their energy reminding her audience that she lives and works in the Caribbean. "My personal imagination," she explains, "paints the Caribbean's bright and happy colors, reflecting a carefree lifestyle, in warm weather, surrounded by

gentle people."

Trudy's atelier can be found in her home village of Savaneta, where she raises her family of three kids. Her work will be on display at Caribbean Queen, Palm Beach Plaza Mall, for the entire month of July. □



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es which maintain overall glowing reviews along with high scores, ratings and ranking, of the thousands of businesses listed on TripAdvisor only 10 % will receive this prestigious honor. Because it is the entire team at Jolly Pirates together who do their utmost

to make their snorkel cruises an experience worth writing home about, a party was held in their honor. "We had a whole lot to celebrate", explains Captain Harald who manages the talent that make up his award – wining crew. After a sunset Cocktail hour



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Claudia Santelli

She is from Caracas, Venezuela. Her first time in Aruba and she is staying at Brickell Bay.

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the festive, open – aired Banana Bus was the evening's mode of transport for the thirty party goers who were wined at the special occasion restaurant located in Saveneta. On the water's edge, the guests of honor were surprised with appreciation gifts of Veuve Clicquot Champagne and Old Parr Scotch Whiskey with chocolates and party favors all cheerfully decorated at the new Party Boutique in Tanki Flip. With their toes in the sand, the group sat by the water and enjoyed a perfect evening with great food and lots of laughter. Special birthday wishes and desserts were served up for Emely Leon, who manages for several years the Jolly Pirates Reservations and Souvenir Shop with a smile. Emely explains, "Receiving the Trip Advisor Award and our recent Best of Aruba Award will certainly translate into more positive reviews from our guests who continue to drive the demand when they recommend our Jolly

Pirates experience to their family and friends. Captain Julio, who has been with the Jolly Pirates for nearly fifteen years explains, "a whole night dining and dancing with the whole team our Trip Advisor Award together with our recent Best Of Aruba Award, was a great way for everyone to celebrate." Jolly Pirates cruise twice daily to the best swimming and snorkeling spots on an impressive gaff-rigged, teak schooner. Twice a week a glorious sunset sail is offered. After countless years of successful sailing, the Jolly Pirates continue to impress guests with small business charm and unfailingly warm service. Feel free to visit the colorful Jolly Pirate Shop at MooMba Beach to congratulate the team and once aboard the Jolly Pirates Ship you will discover loyal friends and the delight of an unforgettable Jolly sail. Call for reservations at 586 – 8107 and after hours at 592 7858. Visit the website at www.jolly-pirates.com □

Travel Agents from Venezuela enjoy Aruba familiarization trip

PALM BEACH - Recently Aruba received a visit from a group of Travel Agents from Venezuela for a fantastic familiarization trip. The trip was organized by ATA Venezuela and Aerolinia Venezolana. The group consisted of 11 Travel Agents, 1 Aerolinia Venezolana Rep and 1 ATA Venezuela Rep. The group was accommodated by the Westin Resort and were

received by Ms. Waleska Curvelo with a very warm welcome.

Venezuela remains Aruba's second biggest market for tourism visitors, and it is very important for these groups to visit the island and get to know what is new and the latest that the Island has to offer in accommodations and activities.

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Hotels and Apartments the group took an awesome Island tour and finished the Famtrip with a fabulous sailing and snorkeling trip courtesy of De Palm Tours,

who was also the ground handler for this Fam Trip. Mr. Ernest Giel from the Aruba Tourism authority was in charge of making a very nice program for this group

and also accompanied the group at every site. A special thanks goes to all the Resorts and Companies involved with this Fam Trip. □

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Aruba says 'Masha Danki' to group of loyal guests!



EAGLE BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of very nice and friendly loyal visitors of Aruba, as Goodwill Ambassadors, at their home away from home, Aruba!

The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as

a token of appreciation to guest who visits Aruba for 20+ years consecutive. The honorees are: Robert and Patricia Davis of Carol Stream, Illinois, honored as Goodwill Ambassadors for 21 years, and Maxine Pittman of Montclair, New Jersey, honored as Goodwill Ambassador for 32 years! Ms. Darline S. de Cuba rep-

resenting Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Sharine Charles conducted the honoring ceremony.

The main reason they return to Aruba is because they consider Aruba to be the Happy Island, the great weather, white sand beaches and the local food and friendly people.□



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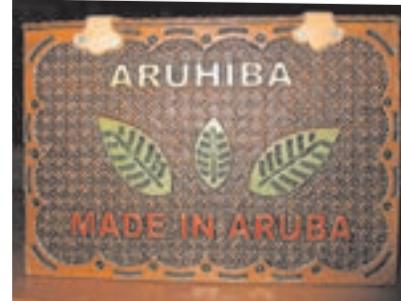
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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. Visit their retail store

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SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

RISING STAR

EDDIE PELLS

AP National Writer

LONDON (AP) — If Sabine Lisicki had a letdown after defeating Serena Williams, it didn't show. If Lisicki is penciling herself into the Wimbledon final, she isn't saying. Showing no drop-off after her dramatic victory over



Sabine Lisicki of Germany reacts as she wins a Women's singles quarterfinal match against Kaia Kanepi of Estonia at Wimbledon, London, Tuesday, July 2, 2013.

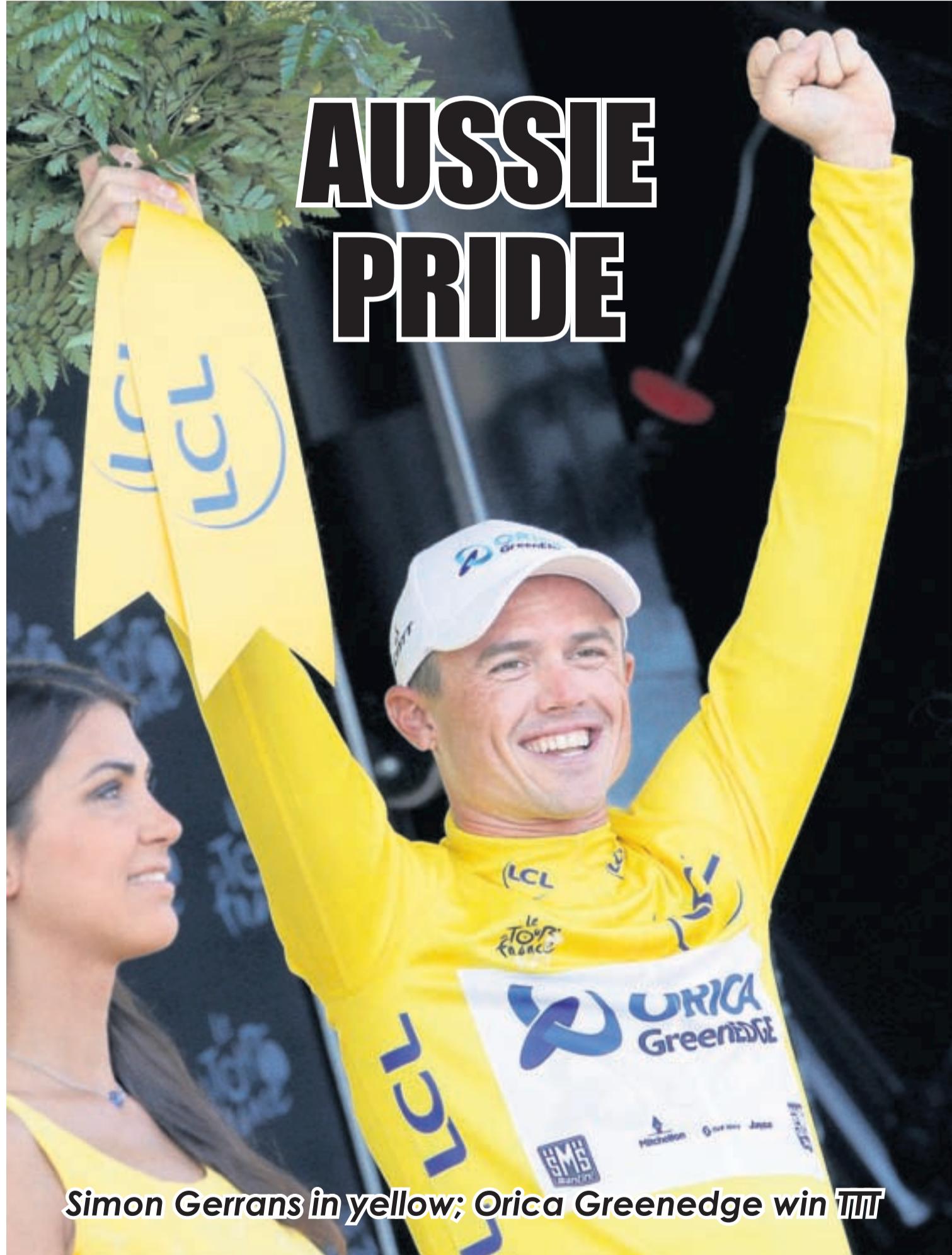
(AP Photo/Alastair Grant)

Williams, the 23rd-seeded Lisicki returned Tuesday and made quick work of a much less intimidating opponent, 46th-ranked Kaia Kanepi, dispatching her 6-3, 6-3 in 65 minutes to advance to her second career Wimbledon semifinal. "I was ready today," Lisicki said. "I knew from the past, out of experience, that I needed to make the switch quickly to be ready, and that's what I did."

Indeed, Lisicki opened the match by breaking Kanepi's serve in the first game and didn't look back in that set. In the second, she had one hiccup — a game in which she double-faulted three times to drop a break and fall behind 2-1.

Continued on page 18

AUSSIE PRIDE



Simon Gerrans of Australia, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, celebrates on the podium of the fourth stage of the Tour de France cycling race, a team time-trial over 25 kilometers (15.6 miles) with start and finish in Nice, southern France, Tuesday July 2, 2013.

(AP Photo/Laurent Cipriani)
Page 20

Lisicki keeps winning to reach Wimbledon semis

Continued from page 17

She broke back right away, however, and won four of the next five games to close out the match. Now, the 23-year-old German finds herself in the Wimbledon semifinals for the second time in three years. Her win against Williams made her the new, odds-on favorite to win the title and even pushed Britain's favorite tennis player, Andy Murray, off the back pages of a couple London tabloids.

All of which means almost nothing — at least to hear Lisicki tell it.

"Match by match," she said. "Did that from the start and will continue to do that."

Her next opponent is No. 4 Agnieszka Radwanska, who defeated No. 6 Li Na 7-6 (5), 4-6, 6-2 in a match that took more than 3½ hours to complete and included two rain delays, an injury timeout and a final game that lasted more than 10 minutes.

The other semifinal will pit No. 15 Marion Bartoli of France against No. 20 Kirsten Flipkens of Belgium. Flipkens beat eighth-seeded Petra Kvitova 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 to knock the last remaining Grand Slam tournament winner out of the draw. Flipkens won her first career Grand Slam quarterfinal, continuing quite a comeback from health problems that dropped her to No. 262 last year, not even eligible for the Wimbledon qualifying tournament.

While Flipkens was winning, one of Belgium's best, Kim Clijsters was at home in America watching.

"Still drying my eyes," Clijsters tweeted. "So proud of how (Flipkens) handled the big occasion for the first time!"

Flipkens, who was sidelined with blood clots in her legs, counts Clijsters among the few who believed in her when things got rough.

"The people believing in me, I can count on one hand," she said. "It's amazing."

Bartoli eliminated the last remaining American singles player, beating Sloane Stephens 6-4, 7-5 in a match halted with Stephens serving, down 5-4 at deuce. After the delay, Bartoli came out and won two points to secure the first set. Soon after, she was showered with boos because she had

asked the umpire to stop the match in the first set when it started sprinkling on Court 1.

"I didn't really get why the crowd was so against me at that point," Bartoli said. "Already, the courts were a bit slippery even when it's dry. When it's wet, it can get dangerous. I didn't

want to stop the match for no reason. It was a precaution." Stephens said it would have been nice to finish the game before the break, which lasted about 2 ½ hours.

"Coming back and serving at deuce, that's always going to be tough for anyone," she said. □



Sabine Lisicki of Germany returns to Kaia Kanepi of Estonia in a Women's singles quarterfinal match at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships in Wimbledon, London, Tuesday, July 2, 2013.

(AP Photo/Anja Niedringhaus)

Familiar Djokovic, Murray set for quarters

HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Tennis Writer

LONDON (AP) — Neither No. 1-seeded Novak Djokovic nor No. 2-seeded Andy Murray has lost a set, let alone a match, so far at Wimbledon. The way things have been going at the All England Club this fortnight, that's actually quite an accomplishment.

Rafael Nadal, a 12-time Grand Slam champion, was beaten in the first round. Roger Federer, owner of a record 17 major titles, went out in the second round, as did four-time major champ Maria Sharapova. Five-time Wimbledon winner Serena Williams' 34-match winning streak ended in the fourth round. And on and on it's gone, with no top-20 player other than Murray left on his side of the draw, and a record-equaling number of withdrawals or mid-match retirements because of health problems.

"Everyone was a bit on edge, a little bit uptight," reigning U.S. Open champion Murray acknowledged, "because of what was

tine, though, heading into the men's quarterfinals Wednesday.

On the top half of the bracket, Djokovic — a six-

2010 runner-up, while No. 4 David Ferrer of Spain plays No. 8 Juan Martin del Potro of Argentina, the 2009 U.S. Open champion and the third man yet to drop a set through four matches.

On the bottom half, it will be Murray against 54th-ranked Fernando Verdasco of Spain, and No. 24 Jerzy Janowicz against his Davis Cup teammate and pal, 130th-ranked Lukasz Kubot, in a match between the first two Polish men to reach a Grand Slam quarterfinal since 1980.

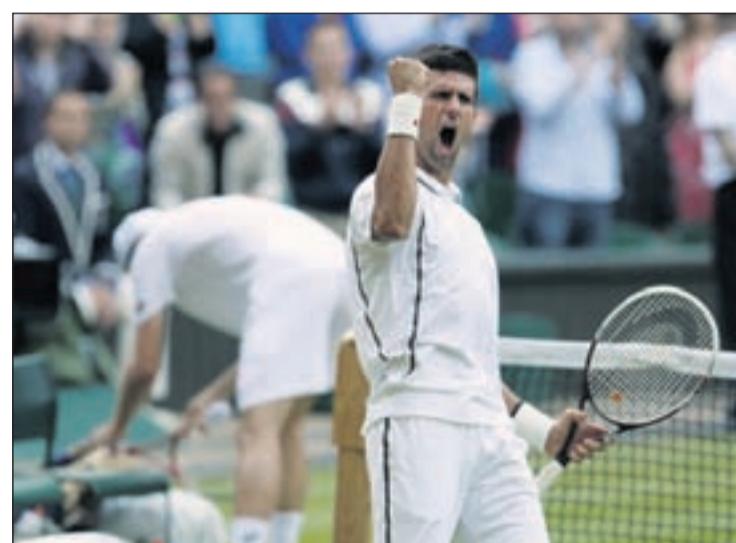
"Magical," Janowicz said. In keeping with the unpredictable nature of the tournament, whoever wins the women's title will be a first-time Grand Slam champion. Thursday's quarterfinals are 2012 runner-up Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland against 23rd-seeded Sabine Lisicki of Germany (who beat Williams on Monday), and 2007 runner-

up Marion Bartoli of France against 20th-seeded Kirsten Flipkens of Belgium.

Janowicz and Kubot are two of the four men still around who will be playing in the quarterfinals at the grass-court Grand Slam tournament for the first time, along with Verdasco and del Potro. Ferrer lost at that stage last year.

The other three have much more solid Wimbledon bona fides: Murray (2012) and Berdych (2010) have been the runner-up, while Djokovic won the title in 2011.

"I feel good about myself in this moment. I think I actually play a better tennis on grass than I played two years ago, when I won this tournament," said Djokovic, who never before had won every set he played in five previous trips to the Wimbledon quarterfinals. "For now, I'm feeling good. I'm No. 1 of the world. □



Novak Djokovic of Serbia reacts after defeating Tommy Haas of Germany during a Men's singles match at Wimbledon, London, Monday, July 1, 2013.

(AP Photo/Anja Niedringhaus)

happening with the injuries, withdrawals, upsets and stuff."

He and Djokovic have made it all look so rou-

time Grand Slam titlist and the only remaining past Wimbledon winner — will face No. 7 Tomas Berdych of the Czech Republic, the

AP Sources: Wolves lock up Budinger, Kevin Martin



The Minnesota Timberwolves agreed to a four-year, \$30 million deal with shooting guard Kevin Martin and a three-year, \$16 million with Chase Budinger (featured), according to two people with knowledge of the deals.

(AP Photo)

JON KRAWCZYNSKI
The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) -- The Minnesota Timberwolves entered unrestricted free agency with two priorities at the top of their list - add a shooting guard with range and bringing back Chase Budinger.

Within the matter of a couple of hours on Tuesday, new team president Flip Saunders accomplished both of those goals.

The Timberwolves agreed to a four-year, \$30 million deal with shooting guard Kevin Martin and a three-year, \$16 million with Budinger, according to two people with knowledge of the deals. Budinger's deal includes a player option for the final season. The people requested anonymity because an official announcement has not been made.

The agreements, which can't become official until July 10, were two strong moves to address the team's woeful outside shooting last season. The Wolves ranked dead last in 3-point shooting percentage last year, and Saunders made it a point to get more shooters to comple-

ment point guard Ricky Rubio's slick passing.

Both players are intimately familiar with coach Rick Adelman's corner offense, a system that is predicated on quick passing and moving without the ball. Martin played for Adelman in Sacramento and Houston before taking a bench role in Oklahoma City last season. He averaged 14.0 points and shot 42.6 percent on 3s last season and was looking for a chance to get back into a starter's role.

The 6-foot-7 Martin will get that in Minnesota, which has been looking for a bigger shooting guard after playing the undersized Luke Ridnour and J.J. Barea in that role for most of last season.

Budinger averaged 9.4 points and shot 32 percent from 3-point range last season. He only played in 23 games thanks to a knee injury that derailed a promising start to the year, but Timberwolves coach Rick Adelman and new President Flip Saunders made no secret of the fact that they badly wanted Budinger back in Minnesota.

The Timberwolves paid

Budinger a visit at his San Diego home on Sunday night, arriving just after the market opened at 9:01 p.m. on the West Coast. Budinger also entertained an offer from the Milwaukee Bucks, but ultimately decided to remain with the Timberwolves and a coach he has grown very fond of in his short time in the league. Budinger played for Adelman in Houston before arriving in a trade prior to last year's draft. His ability to shoot from the perimeter and move without the ball paid immediate dividends, helping him fit right in with the system Adelman was still installing in his second season with the Timberwolves. Budinger's high-point last season came early on in a game against the Indiana Pac-

ers on Nov. 9. He scored 18 points in the game, including the game-winning layup with less than 1 second to play that came after he made the kind of cut to the basket from the 3-point line that few other Timberwolves players showed the instincts to make. But the very next night in Chicago, Budinger tore the meniscus in his left knee and did not return until late March. The Timberwolves sorely missed him. They had to rely almost exclusively on the pick-and-roll on offense, something that Adelman has historically been reluctant to do in favor of his more free-flowing, motion-based corner offense. But without Budinger there to make cuts away from the ball and come off screens, the Wolves had to simplify

things. After Andrei Kirilenko declined his \$10.2 million option with the Wolves to become a free agent, a starting job opened at small forward. The promise of significant playing time, coupled with Adelman and pass-happy point guard Ricky Rubio, no doubt played a role in his decision.

Now the Wolves will likely turn all of their focus to restricted free agent center Nikola Pekovic, who is expected to receive significant offers on the open market once Dwight Howard makes a decision on where he is going. Saunders has said that the Wolves, who can match any offer made, will do whatever it takes to keep him. □

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Spain, France reach quarterfinals at U20 World Cup

ERIC WILLEMSSEN

Associated Press

ISTANBUL (AP) — Spain striker Jese scored in injury time as his team came from behind to beat Mexico 2-1 and set up a quarterfinal against Uruguay at the Under-20 World Cup on Tuesday.

The European Under-19 champions will be joined by France, which defeated host Turkey 4-1 to line up a last-eight meeting with Uzbekistan, a 3-1 winner over Greece.

Jese's strike from outside the area was deflected by Mexico defender Abel Fuentes and goalkeeper Richard Sanchez could only dive over the ball. It was Jese's fifth goal of the tournament.

Mexico stunned tournament favorite Spain in the second minute when Arturo Gonzalez came in from the left and sent a diagonal shot past goalkeeper Daniel Sotres.

Spain recovered quickly and found its usual rhythm of short passes and moves in midfield. However, it struggled to reach its forwards against Mexico's well-placed defense.

The South Americans, who missed suspended midfielder Jesus Escobosa, created danger through quick counterattacks, though Raul Lopez's header in the 19th went just over and a thundering 20-meter (yard) shot by Jorge Espericueta hit the crossbar in the 31st. Spain continued to dominate possession in the second half as it gained control of the match. The Mexican defense started to falter and Spain finally got the chances it had been looking for.

Captain Paco Alacacer was set up by Jese in the 51st but keeper Sanchez saved his low shot with his

left foot.

The game turned around when Mexico left Derik unmarked in the 74th when

Nicolas Lopez scored twice in the second half to give Uruguay a 2-1 win over Nigeria, which was reduced

two minutes, receiving a straight red card for the second in the 41st minute. Lopez scored from close

ter strike from Olarenwaju Kayode to make it 1-1 four minutes later. Lopez converted a penalty



Spain's Derik, obscured third right, scores his side's first goal past Mexico's goalkeeper Richard Sanchez, second left, during the Under-20 World Cup round of sixteen soccer match between Spain and Mexico in Istanbul, Turkey, Tuesday, July 2, 2013. Spain won by 2-1.

(AP Photo/Gero Breloer)

he received a corner kick at the far post, leaving the defender an easy chance to level.

to 10 players just before halftime. Defender Abdullahi Shehu committed two fouls within

range in the 65th minute after the Nigeria defense failed to clear the ball from the area, only for a 20-me-

in the 84th after substitute Diego Rolan dribbled past goalkeeper Chukwunenye Okani and was fouled. □

Brazil's Paulinho joins Tottenham from Corinthians

TALES AZZONI

AP Sports Writer

SAO PAULO (AP) — Brazil defensive midfielder Paulinho is joining Tottenham from Brazilian club Corinthians.

Official details on the transfer were not disclosed, but local media said Tuesday that Tottenham is paying €20 million to sign Paulinho on a four-year contract. That was the amount in the buyout clause established by Corinthians when it extended the player's contract until 2015.

Half of the €20 million goes to Corinthians and the rest goes to Sao Paulo club

Audax, which is where the player started.

The 24-year-old Paulinho was voted the third-best player at the Confederations Cup, behind Brazil teammate Neymar and Andres Iniesta of Spain. In addition to begin a solid defender, Paulinho is also known for his efficiency when attacking. He scored two goals in the World Cup warm-up tournament, including the winner in Brazil's 2-1 victory over Uruguay in the semifinals.

He had also scored key goals for Corinthians since joining the Brazilian giant from Bragantino three

years ago.

Paulinho helped Corinthians win the Brazilian league in 2011, the Copa Libertadores and the Club World Cup in 2012 and the traditional Sao Paulo state championship earlier this year. He scored 34 goals in 167 matches with Corinthians, Brazil's second most popular club behind Flamengo.

There had been reports that Paulinho had signed with the English club before the Confederations Cup started, but the player said that the deal was not closed until after he returned to Sao Paulo following Brazil's

3-0 win over Spain in the Confederations Cup final at the Maracana Stadium on Sunday.

"I had three wonderful years with Corinthians, I have to thank the club for everything that it did for my career," he said. "It gets to a point where you need new challenges."

Paulinho said that Inter Milan was the other club that had made an offer to try to sign him.

"I analyzed all the options and I know that I made the right decision," he said, without disclosing what Inter Milan offered. "I'm going to a great club." □

Personal Health:

A label calls attention to obesity epidemic

JANE E. BRODY

© 2013 New York Times

Most people know that obesity can result in serious health problems, yet many of us continue to focus on its cosmetic consequences rather than its risks to health.

This distorted view may change now that the American Medical Association has finally labeled obesity a disease, not just a risk factor for other disorders. Last month, the organization recognized that obesity is a verifiable illness that warrants far more attention than physicians, patients and insurers currently give it.

The designation may change how aggressively doctors treat obesity, foster the development of new therapies and lead to better coverage by insurers. After all, the price of not treating obesity is now in the stratosphere. Obesity-related health conditions cost the nation more than \$150 billion and result in an estimated 300,000 premature deaths each year.

If the population's weight gain is not soon capped (or better yet, reversed), experts predict that half of adults in America will be obese by 2040. The AMA has said in effect that it is medicine's responsibility to provide the knowledge and tools needed to curb this runaway epidemic.

On June 19, James Gandolfini, the hefty award-winning actor who portrayed Tony Soprano in "The Sopranos," died at 51, apparently of a heart attack while on vacation in Italy. Even if genetics played a role, Gandolfini's weight contributed significantly to his risk of sudden cardiac death.

Not a week earlier, a 46-year-old member of my family who weighed over 300 pounds died suddenly of what might have been a heart attack while dozing in front of the television. He had long suffered from sleep apnea (a risk factor for sudden death), high blood pressure and severe gout, all results of his ex-

treme weight.

Fran Saunders, a 62-year-old Brooklynite, is determined to avoid a similar fate. At 4 feet 11 inches tall and 157 pounds, she was clinically obese. She was sent for blood tests when she complained of a vision problem that could have been related to her weight. All her lab readings - total cholesterol, triglycerides, blood sugar - were seriously abnormal. Her doctor said she was a heart attack waiting to happen. But "the bad news was a blessing in disguise," she told me.

Though she had long been



Most people know that obesity can result in serious health problems, yet many of us continue to focus on its cosmetic consequences rather than its risks to health.

(Handout Photo)

a regular at the gym, she knew it was time to get her diet on a healthier track to lower her cholesterol, her risk of developing diabetes and her chances of dying prematurely.

She now monitors what she eats and how much she exercises with a free cellphone app, My Fitness Pal. Gradual weight loss started almost overnight at a pound or two a week. Although her goal weight is 110 to 115 pounds, her blood test results improved significantly after she lost just seven pounds.

"My doctor told me that every pound I lose lowers my risk," said Saunders. "I know it's possible for some people to be fit and fat, but that wasn't the case for me, and it was time to stop kidding myself."

The list of problems obesity can cause should be a call to action for the one-third of American adults who

are obese.

HEART DISEASE AND STROKE

Obesity can raise levels of triglycerides and LDL cholesterol and lower levels of protective HDL cholesterol. This raises the risk of atherosclerosis tenfold, fostering a buildup of plaque in arteries that feed the heart and brain. The chest pains of angina occur when the heart cannot get enough oxygen-rich blood through clogged arteries. A piece of plaque can break off at any time and block a narrowed artery, causing a heart attack or stroke. Obesity also strains the

The more weight a person carries, the greater the stress on joints and the risk of developing osteoarthritis in the knees, hips and lower back. Obesity is a major reason for the sharp rise in costly joint replacements. Excess weight can also cause premature failure of artificial joints.

BREATHING PROBLEMS

In addition to causing shortness of breath during physical exertion, obesity is the leading cause of obstructive sleep apnea - breathing stops periodically during sleep, followed by an abrupt intake of air and loud snoring. Apnea disrupts sleep and results in daytime drowsiness that can cause accidents.

CANCER

People who are obese are at increased risk of developing cancers of the colon, breast, endometrium, esophagus, pancreas, kidney, thyroid and gallbladder. One possible reason: Increased amounts of growth factor in obese people may promote tumor development.

METABOLIC SYNDROME

One-third of overweight and obese people have a constellation of six factors that raise the risk of cardiovascular disease: abdominal obesity, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, insulin resistance, excessive clotting factors and inflammatory compounds in the bloodstream. Abdominal fat is especially hazardous because it is metabolically active, unlike fat on the hips and thighs. The list of obesity's hazards goes on: infertility in women, pregnancy problems, gallstones and gout, not to mention emotional disorders, social ostracism and employment discrimination.

The first step toward avoiding all of these is a simple calculation to determine whether you are at risk. The most frequently used measure is body mass index, calculated by dividing weight in kilograms by height in meters squared. □

heart and can lead to heart failure.

HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

Excess body fat increases the volume of blood the heart must pump to supply all tissues with nutrients and oxygen. This increases the pressure on artery walls, which contributes to heart disease, stroke and kidney failure.

TYPE 2 DIABETES

Obesity impairs the body's ability to use insulin to maintain normal blood sugar levels. Diabetes, in turn, is a leading cause of heart disease, stroke, kidney disease and blindness. Even being moderately overweight can lead to insulin resistance, in which the body becomes insensitive to the hormone. The condition can be reversed by weight loss.

JOINT DISEASE

Spurious TB drugs posing a real threat

DONALD G. MCNEIL Jr

© 2013 New York Times

Substandard tuberculosis drugs sold by pharmacies in poor countries are a growing public health threat, but the problem could be alleviated if governments enforced World Health Organization standards, a new study reports.

At pharmacies in 17 countries, the authors bought 713 samples of two TB drugs, the antibiotics rifampin and isoniazid. Nine percent had no active ingredient or, worse, too little: An inadequate dose encourages the growth of drug-resistant TB strains while not curing the patient.

The study, published online by PLoS Medicine, shows the failures in what should be a nearly perfect system for basic TB control, said Dr. Lucica Ditiu, executive secretary of the Stop TB Partnership.

That partnership, which is affiliated with the WHO, supplies packaged, high-quality drugs at about \$30 per box with a six-month supply. Poor countries get them free, middle-income countries pay on a sliding scale, and even the U.S. is negotiating to buy them to cover spot shortages, Ditiu said. Ideally, said Amir Attaran, a drug-counterfeiting expert at the University of Ottawa and an author of the study, all countries would buy the partnership's drugs and governments would ban sales of those drugs for other purposes.

"But that's not what happens," Attaran said. Not all countries follow the WHO regimen, not all doctors prescribe the drugs in it, "and in private pharmacies, all bets are off," he added, since some will sell anything to any buyer, with or without a prescription.

Even poor countries like Rwanda have shown they can control TB by enforcing "pharmacovigilance," the study said. Both Attaran and Ditiu cited India as a country that conspicuously fails to enforce it and so is facing a huge epidemic of multidrug-resistant TB. □



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AP Reviews New Smartphones: Android, iOS and more!

The Associated Press

New phones are continually coming out. Which should you buy? Here's a summary of The Associated Press' recent phone reviews, including the latest on Google phones running a pure version of Android.

GALAXY S4, SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO.

The S4 is an excellent device from a hardware standpoint. Its 5-inch (12.5-centimeter) screen is larger than its predecessor, yet it's a tad lighter and smaller. The display is sharp, at 441 pixels per inch. Samsung packed the Android device with a slew of custom features, including new camera tools and the ability to perform tasks by waving a finger over a sensor. Many of the features, however, make the phone more complicated to use. In some cases, custom features work only some of the time. In other cases, you're confronted with too many ways to do similar things. The S4 might be for you if you don't mind spending time customizing it. Otherwise, you must bypass all the gimmicks to get to what otherwise is a good

phone.

— Anick Jesdanun, AP Technology Writer

HTC ONE, HTC CORP.

The One is a phone that can match Apple's standards of feel and finish. Plastic and metal are joined together so well that you can't tell by feel where one ends and the other starts. The 4.7-inch (11.9-centimeter) screen is also quite a sight, its 468 pixels per inch among the best. Two front-facing speakers give you real stereo sound when turned sideways to watch a movie. HTC's camera has a lower resolution than most. Promises of better low-light shots from its larger sensors only partly delivered. Like other Android phone makers, HTC adds confusion by customizing the interface. There are four different "home" screens from which to launch apps, for instance. The One is worth checking out as an alternative to the Galaxy S4 from Samsung, which also adds complication with its custom features.

— Peter Svensson, AP Technology Writer

GOOGLE PLAY PHONES

Google has worked with both Samsung Electronics Co. and HTC Corp. to come out with a "Google Play" edition of the Galaxy S4 and HTC One phones. Instead of using customized software from Samsung and HTC, the Google

by Samsung and HTC actually make the phones more complex to use. The bad news: The Google edition of the S4 sells for \$649, while Google's HTC One goes for \$599, compared with the \$100 to \$200 that you can typically get the original models for with a



phones run a pure version of Android, as developed by Google. Essentially, the Google versions of these phones are replicas of the originals, with most of the bells and whistles removed. That's a good thing, as many of those "improvements" added to Android

two-year agreement. And the phones don't work on Verizon and Sprint's CDMA networks.

— Anick Jesdanun, AP Technology Writer

BLACKBERRY Q10, RESEARCH IN MOTION LTD.

The Q10 is a successful mar-

riage of the modern touch-screen smartphone and the iconic BlackBerry keyboard. The interface takes time to get used to, and it doesn't have the simple immediacy of the iPhone. But once you learn it, you can positively zip between tasks. The downside to the new BlackBerry 10 operating system is its relative dearth of third-party software. In addition, the keyboard eats up space that could be devoted to a bigger screen, leaving the Q10 with a square, 3.1-inch (7.8-centimeter) screen. Nonetheless, the Q10 is likely to be attractive to the BlackBerry faithful, and it deserves serious consideration from Android and iPhone users as well.

— Peter Svensson, AP Technology Writer

IPHONE 5, APPLE INC.

The iPhone 5 is the biggest overhaul to the line since the release of the 3G in 2008. Compared with other high-end smartphones, however, it's more of a catch-up move. The 4-inch screen is larger than previous iPhones, but smaller than many Android devices. □

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US stocks turn lower after Egypt turmoil worsens

STEVE ROTHWELL

AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP)—The stock market ended slightly lower Tuesday after reports of intensifying political turmoil

or 0.3 percent, to close at 14,932.41. The Nasdaq composite slipped 1.09 points, a fraction of a percentage point, at 3,433.40. Trading activity was lighter

Crude oil jumped about \$1 a barrel after news emerged of the worsening political situation in Egypt. Oil closed up \$1.61 at \$99.60 a barrel in New

since 2007. That helped lift Ford's stock 44 cents, or 2.8 percent, to \$16.18.

U.S. factory orders rose in May, helped by a third straight month of stronger business investment.

Also, U.S. home prices jumped 12.2 percent in May from a year earlier, the most in seven years, according to real estate data provider CoreLogic. The increase suggests the housing recovery is strengthening.

When trading resumes Friday, investors will turn their attention to a key gauge of the economy — the government's monthly employment report.

Economists forecast that the U.S. economy added 165,000 jobs in June, according to data compiled by FactSet.

The Dow surged 200 points June 7 after the Labor Department said that U.S. employers added 175,000 jobs in May. The Federal Reserve has said the jobs market will be critical in determining when it ends its bond buying, which has kept interest rates low and driven a surge in stocks this

year. Investors and traders are also starting to think about corporate earnings, which begin in earnest next week. While corporate profits have reached record levels, most of the gains have come from cutting costs rather than increasing sales.

"We're in the middle of a transition," said Chris Wolfe, chief investment officer at Merrill Lynch Private Banking and Investment Group. "You would expect to see, over the balance of this year and going into next year, somewhat stronger macro-economic data that translates directly into stronger corporate revenue growth."

Alcoa, the first company in the Dow to report its earnings, will release its second-quarter results after the market closes July 8.

In government bond trading, the yield on the 10-year Treasury note was unchanged at 2.48 percent on Monday.

In other trading, the price of gold fell \$12.30, or 1 percent, to close at \$1,243.40 an ounce. □



Traders Gregory Rowe, left, and Mark Muller, center, work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Stocks ended mostly lower on Wall Street after reports of intensifying political turmoil in Egypt offset good news about the U.S. economy.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

in Egypt offset good news about the U.S. economy. Stocks rose most of the day on positive news about car sales, home prices and manufacturing. But major indexes turned lower after 1:40 p.m. (1740 GMT) after news emerged that Egypt's military had drawn up plans to suspend the country's constitution, dissolve its legislature and set up an interim government. Millions of protesters are demanding the ouster of President Mohammed Morsi.

The price of oil climbed close to \$100 a barrel on concern that the crisis in the largest Arab nation could disrupt the flow of crude from the region.

"It's more or less Egypt unrest," said Sal Arnuk, co-founder of Themis Trading, a brokerage firm that specializes in stocks. "These very large protests are being televised and broadcast — that's spooking people."

The Standard & Poor's 500 index had climbed as much as 9 points shortly before midday. It then fell as much as 8 points before closing down 0.88 point, or 0.1 percent, at 1,614.08.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 42.55 points,

than normal, influenced by the upcoming July 4 holiday. The stock market will close on at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, ahead of the Independence Day holiday on Thursday. The market re-opens Friday.

York. It last crossed \$100 on Sept. 14 of last year. The market's early gains were driven by a number of strong economic reports. U.S. June auto sales reached their highest level

Investors pull \$9.6 billion from Pimco fund

NATHANIEL POPPER

© 2013 New York Times

Investors pulled a record amount of money from Pimco's flagship Total Return bond fund in June, a stark indication of how rising interest rates have pushed bonds out of favor. The Total Return fund, the largest mutual fund in the world, saw outflows of \$9.6 billion — the largest monthly outflow since Morningstar began tracking the fund in 1993.

The figure is nearly half of the total amount of money that was pulled from bond mutual funds and exchange traded funds, through June 26, according to Lipper.

The size of the outflows underscore the challenges facing Pimco, which has risen to become the fifth-largest money manager in the world as a result of the

popularity of its bond mutual funds, as well as bond mutual funds more broadly. Since Ben S. Bernanke, the Federal Reserve chairman, indicated in May that the Fed may pull back on its bond-buying programs, investors have piled out of bonds, which has driven up interest rates and pushed down the value of existing bonds.

While Pimco's Total Return fund has a reputation for outperforming a strong bond market, as the market has dropped, Pimco's fund has fallen even more. In the second quarter, the fund dropped 3.7 percent, worse than 95 percent of similar bond funds tracked by Morningstar. The outflows represent nearly 3.4 percent of the fund's total assets at the beginning of June, according to Morningstar, leaving the fund

with \$268 billion under management.

Pimco executives have been vocally defending bond investments broadly, calling the recent swings in the market an overre-

action. The firm's leader, William H. Gross, has taken the unusual step of posting a number of videos shot in his office in which he attempts to calm the fears of investors. □



Bill Gross, a founder of Pacific Investment Management Company, outside a television studio at the company's office in Newport Beach, Calif. Interest rates have surged in the last two months, and Pimco, the fifth-largest asset manager in the world, is showing signs of stress.

(Stephanie Diani/The New York Times)

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Federal Reserve approves big bank capital standards

M. CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve agreed Tuesday to raise the amount of capital that big banks must hold to prevent their collapse and reduce the threat they pose to the broader financial system. The higher capital requirements were mandated by Congress in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis. They are also in accordance with international standards agreed to after the downturn.

Banks had lobbied to modify the requirements on higher capital, saying they could hamper their ability to lend.

But experts said most big banks have already increased their capital reserves.

"With these revisions to our capital rules, banking organizations will be better able to withstand periods of financial stress, thus contributing to the overall health of the U.S. economy," said Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke.

But critics say the rule failed to go far enough and kept taxpayers at risk of having to bail out banks again, should they suffer the kinds of losses incurred during the crisis.

"The rule announced by the Federal Reserve today fails to learn the lesson of the most recent crisis and makes the next crisis — and more bailouts — more likely," said Dennis Kelleher, president of Better Markets Inc., a nonprofit bank watchdog group.

Hundreds of U.S. banks received federal bailouts during the financial crisis that struck in 2008 and triggered the worst economic down-

turn since the Great Depression. The list included America's largest financial firms, including JPMorgan Chase, Goldman Sachs, Citigroup, Bank of America and Wells Fargo.

The banking industry has been recovering steadily since then, with overall profits rising and banks starting to lend more freely. Under the rule, all banks will need to maintain a level of high-quality capital equal to 4.5 percent of their loans and other assets, weighted by how risky those assets are.

A Fed staff memo said that banks with more than \$10 billion in assets and more than 95 percent of those with less than \$10 billion in assets would meet the 4.5 percent capital requirement. There is currently a 4 percent requirement for capital but it is not restricted to just high-quality capital, such as bank stock or retained earnings.

The nation's 19 largest banks with assets of \$250 billion or more will have to start meeting the requirements by Jan. 1. All other banks will have to begin meeting the requirements a year later.

The rules will be fully phased in by the end of 2018.

The final rule dropped a provision from an earlier draft that required banks to hold higher amounts of capital for mortgage loans judged to be risky.

The change was made after the housing industry and smaller community banks argued against this rule. They objected because they said it would restrict mortgage loans at a time when the housing industry was still struggling to recover. □

Gaining 2.1% in May: US factory orders keep on truckin'

C. S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Orders to U.S. factories rose in May, helped by a third straight month of stronger business investment.

The gains suggest manufacturing may be picking up after a weak start to the year.

The Commerce Department said Tuesday that factory orders rose 2.1 percent in May. April's increase was revised higher to 1.3 percent from 1 percent.

Most of the increase in May was due to a big jump in volatile commercial aircraft demand. Still, businesses also ordered more machinery, computers and household appliances.

A category of orders that's viewed as a proxy for business investment plans — which excludes the volatile areas of transportation and defense — rose 1.5 percent. That was even stronger than solid gains in the previous two months. This measure of business investment hadn't increased for three straight months since the fall of 2011. The

consecutive gains suggest U.S. manufacturing could improve in the second half of the year. Manufacturing has struggled this year after

nondurable goods, including paper, chemicals and oil, rose 0.7 percent. Demand for commercial aircraft surged nearly



A Thomasville Furniture truck moves through traffic on Interstate 79 near Evans City, Pa. The Commerce Department reported, Tuesday, July 2, 2013, on orders placed with U.S. factories in May.

(AP Photo/Keith Srakocic)

helping propel the economy in the first three years after the recession ended. U.S. factories have seen less demand for exports because of weaker global growth. And businesses reduced their investment in machinery and equipment in the first quarter.

The May report showed that orders for long-lasting goods, from power generation equipment to ships and boats, rose 3.7 percent in May. Orders for

51 percent, after an 18.4 percent gain in April and a drop of 43.3 percent in March.

Orders for autos and auto parts fell 2 percent, after jumping 4.1 percent in April. Still, the decline is likely temporary.

U.S. automakers on Tuesday reported healthy sales gains in June. Ford Motor Co.'s sales soared 13 percent in June compared with a year earlier. Chrysler's sales rose 8 percent. □

Oil near \$100 on Egypt, US demand outlook

The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Oil nearly reached \$100 a barrel for the first time this year, as traders worried about disruptions to Mideast supplies while anticipating an increase in oil demand in the U.S.

U.S. benchmark crude for August delivery gained \$1.61, or 1.6 percent, to close at \$99.60 a barrel in New York after rising as high as \$99.87. Oil last crossed \$100 a barrel on Sept. 14 of

last year.

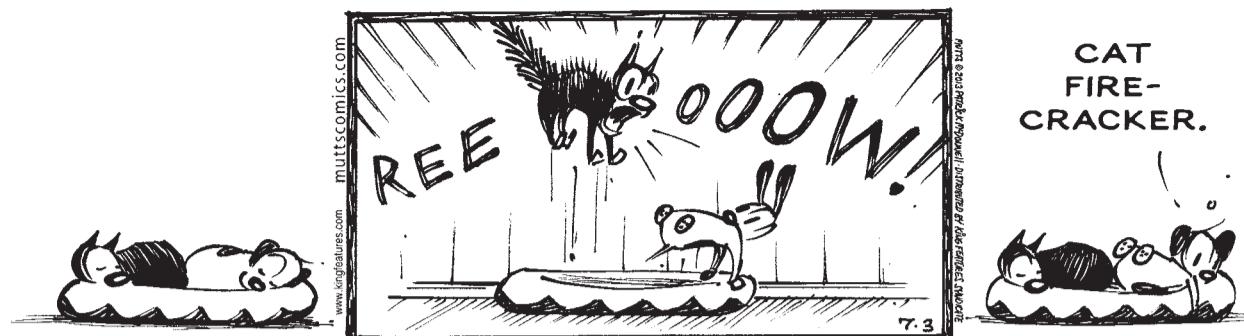
In London, Brent crude rose \$1 to finish at \$104 a barrel on the ICE Futures exchange.

Protests in Egypt continued as President Mohammed Morsi faced a military ultimatum that gives him until Wednesday to meet the demands of the millions who have taken to the streets seeking his ouster. Traders were concerned that the situation in Egypt, as well as the civil war

in Syria, could affect the production and transport of oil supplies in the Middle East and North Africa.

Traders are also awaiting the Energy Department's weekly report on U.S. stockpiles of crude oil on Wednesday. Data for the week ending June 28 is expected to show a draw of 3 million barrels in crude oil stocks, according to a survey of analysts by Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hill Cos. □

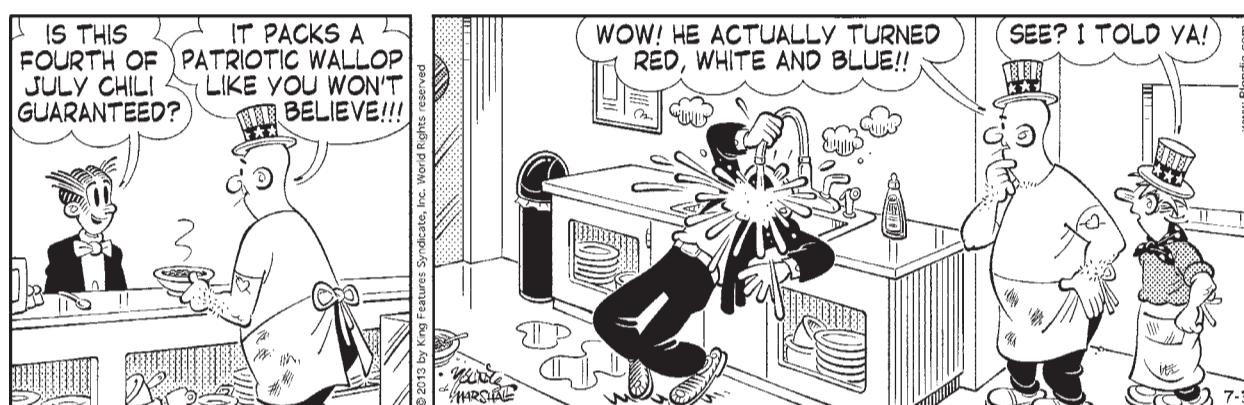
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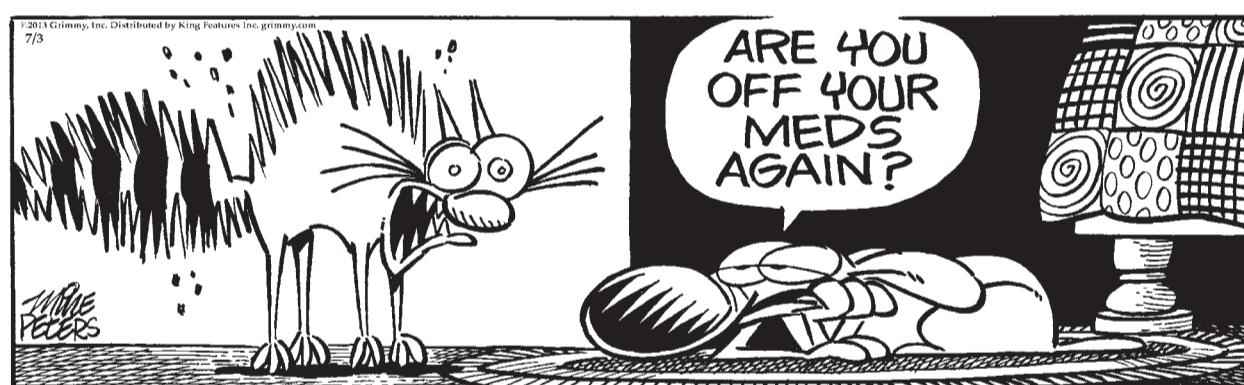
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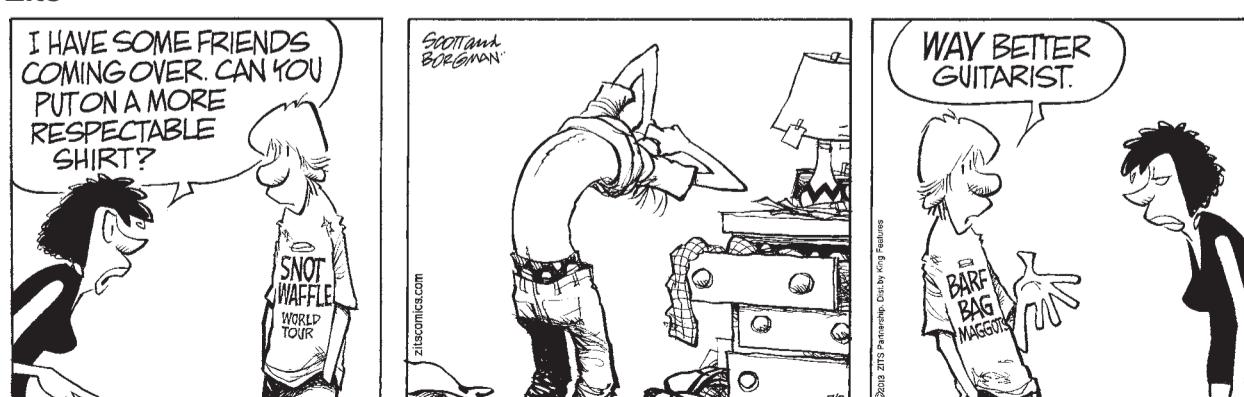
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Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			9					
7	6	3	8	5	4	1		
8		4	2	3		5		
9		7	3			2		
2		5	8			9		
3	4				8	1		
	8					7		
			6	7				
			8	3	4			

Difficulty Level ★★★

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7/03

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

9	6	7	5	2	4	3	1	8
5	1	3	7	6	8	2	9	4
8	2	4	9	3	1	5	6	7
1	9	8	6	5	3	7	4	2
2	7	5	8	4	9	6	3	1
4	3	6	2	1	7	9	8	5
6	4	1	3	7	5	8	2	9
3	5	9	4	8	2	1	7	6
7	8	2	1	9	6	4	5	3

Yesterday's puzzle answer

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13		14		15						16			
17				18						19			
20		21								22			
			23							24	25		
26	27	28								29	30		31
32	33												
34			35							36			
37			38							39			
40			41							42			
43		44								45			
			46							47			
48	49	50		51	52	53					54	55	
56			57							58			59
60			61							62			
63			64							65			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/3/13

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

CLUB	GIANT	SAGE
HOSE	UNDER	OBEY
AGES	ANDRE	DUNE
PORTERS	VACATED	
MAD	GET UP	
EDGAR	SRS	ROADS
IRON	AKA	REPEAL
DAM	OLYMPUS	RUE
EMERGE	MOB	HIND
RARER	DAD	DIETS
DEFER	HUB	
CRIMSON	BANANAS	
HERE	RIDER	CEDE
ILKA	MAULS	HAZE
CYST	SLOTH	ITEM

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7/3/13

1	Buddy	42	Wedding ring
2	Was indebted to	43	material
3	Lessened	44	Symbol; badge
4	Couple	45	Hoses down
5	Puts on Twitter	46	Send in payment
6	Additionally	47	Within walking distance
7	Graceful forest animal	48	Festive event
31	Actor	49	Bill
	Edward		denomination
1	Buddy	50	Sleep out
2	Was indebted to	51	Female horse
3	Lessened	52	Bowler's targets
4	Couple	53	Graceful forest animal
5	Puts on Twitter	54	Within walking distance
6	Additionally	55	Festive event
7	Graceful forest animal	56	Bill
31	Actor	57	denomination

NYC Newsstands: No porn, just books and magazines

ERIKA ALLEN

© 2013 New York Times

NEW YORK - The rumble of trains and the beeps of swiping fare cards do not seem to distract shoppers huddled inside a tiny newsstand at the Metropolitan Avenue subway station in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn. Some customers squat, flipping through literary magazines and novels with titles like "Killing Williamsburg." Others thumb through booklets of photocopied Polaroids. There is not a daily paper or a gossip magazine in sight, and almost no one looks up when a curious commuter asks, "What is this place?" This place is the Newsstand, a pop-up shop that has temporarily transformed an ordinary subway space into a store for independently published magazines, books, comics and zines. In a digitized world, it is a small haven for printed media.

Underground, without cellphone service, people are moved to engage, said Lele Saveri, the Newsstand's manager.

"I never get someone on a phone and reading," he said. "They are focused on whatever is in their hands." The Newsstand, open until July 20, carries selections from some of the city's best-known specialty bookshops: magazines and journals from McNally-Jackson in SoHo; zines and photography books from Dashwood Books on the Lower East Side of Manhattan; comics from the Desert Island bookstore in Williamsburg; art books from Ohwow in Greenwich Village. The stores selected the offerings, a kind of "staff picks" for the tight space.

"I was trying to find a way of supporting that scene without stepping on their toes," Saveri said of the stores he asked to participate.

The stand has also fielded donations and submissions from local artists and recruited them as guest clerks. Saveri said he gets batches of zines from new artists daily and has even had commuters drop off bags of novels that they've finished reading.

You will not find Snickers

bars or diet soda here, although the Newsstand does stock snacks. There are little cans of Perrier, bottles of fermented tea and Brooklyn-made treats like Ovenly bacon-fat-roasted peanuts and McClure's potato chips. Kevin Kearney, a partner and managing director at ALLDAYEVERYDAY, a marketing and communications agency, approached Saveri, a photographer, curator and organizer of the city's 8-Ball Zine fair, about creating an alternative newsstand in January. □

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US Energy Secretary: Capture CO₂, use it to get oil

Jennifer A. Dlouhy

© 2012 Houston Chronicle

WASHINGTON - The future of coal-fired power may lie in still-developing technol-

ogy to capture the carbon dioxide it produces and put it to work in the oil field, Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz says.

In an interview with Platts Energy Week, Moniz talked up the potential not just for capturing and storing the carbon dioxide produced

by burning fossil fuels, but using more of it to glean oil from aging fields. Oil and gas companies already use the method - called enhanced oil recovery - around the United States, but Moniz sees it ramping up. "We're producing about 300,000 barrels per day using carbon dioxide to enhance oil recovery from older fields," Moniz told the energy news show. "The estimates are that could increase by a factor of 10 to about 3 million barrels a day."

But that would require a whole lot more carbon dioxide - about 600 million tons per year. "We could only get that by capturing it from industrial sources, power plants," Moniz said. The Energy Department is working to accelerate some enhanced oil recovery technology and operations. For instance, it has provided \$431 million toward a project at Valero's refinery in Port Arthur, where carbon dioxide is being extracted from two steam methane reformers, then dried, compressed

and shipped to the West Hastings oil field 20 miles south of Houston.

Pumping the greenhouse gas underground has two benefits: It helps pull more crude out of the site, and it stores the carbon dioxide indefinitely.

The Port Arthur project involves just 1 million metric tons of carbon dioxide a year - which puts the potential scale of future efforts in perspective.

But carbon capture technology is still a long way from being commercially viable. The Energy Department is expected to play a major role in helping develop and commercialize the technology.

Moniz said the department's role includes "establishing for the longer term the science, the technology and the regulatory basis for large-scale capture of CO₂ and utilization and sequestration of that carbon dioxide."

Carbon capture technology is seen as key to winnowing the greenhouse gas released by coal-fired power and helping to keep that energy source viable as the U.S. and other countries clamp down on the emissions.

"We are trying to prepare the future of coal in a carbon constrained world," Moniz said.

It's off to a rocky start. The Port Arthur project notwithstanding, larger, utility-scale operations have proved challenging and expensive.

For example, costs have climbed for Southern Company's bid to build a plant in Mississippi with the goal of capturing and storing carbon dioxide emissions from the coal used at the facility. President Barack Obama last week directed the Environmental Protection Agency to propose greenhouse gas emissions limits for new and existing power plants. A previous draft proposal that focused on new plants - along with the relatively low price of natural gas - prompted some companies to cancel plans to build new coal-fired facilities. □



A mechanized shovel loads coal onto a haul truck at the Cloud Peak Energy's Spring Creek mine near Decker, Mont. The future of coal-fired power may lie in still-developing technology to capture the carbon dioxide it produces and put it to work in the oil field, Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz says.

(AP Photo/Matthew Brown)

Russian booster rocket crashes in Kazakhstan

V. ISACHENKOV

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — A Russian booster rocket carrying three navigation satellites burst into flames and crashed on live TV moments after its launch Tuesday, dealing another painful blow to the nation's space prestige.

The failure follows a long string of launch mishaps that could tarnish Russia's reputation and eventually cost it a share in the lucrative satellite launch market. It also hurt one of the Kremlin's pet projects, the GLONASS satellite navigation system intended to serve as a Russian equivalent of the U.S. GPS system. The Proton-M booster suffered an emergency shutdown of its engines 17 seconds into the flight and crashed some 2 kilometers (over a mile) from the launch pad on the Baikonur cosmodrome in

Kazakhstan, the Russian Space Agency said in a statement.

Live footage on the state news channel Rossiya-24 showed the rocket tilt to

one side shortly after the launch, curve downward, catch fire and crash in a giant fireball.

The powerful explosion left a 200-meter (218-yard)



In this frame grab made from TV footage distributed by Russian Vesti 24 channel Russian booster rocket carrying three satellites crashes at a Russia-leased cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on Tuesday July 2, 2013 shortly after the launch. The Proton-M booster unexpectedly shut down the engine 17 seconds into the flight and crashed some 2 kilometers (over a mile) away from the Baikonur launch pad, the Russian Space Agency said in a statement.

(AP Photo/ Vesti 24 via APTN)

crater and sent plumes of highly toxic rocket fuel into the air, prompting the administration of the city of Baikonur 80 kilometers (50 miles) away to order residents to close windows and stay home for several hours. The ban was lifted a few hours later after the authorities said that most of the rocket fuel appeared to have burned in the crash and rain quickly dispelled the poisonous cloud. Russian officials reported no casualties or damage, and Kazakhstan's space agency issued a statement saying no toxic components were spotted in air or soil in the area. However, several Kazakh environmental activists quickly demanded an end to Russian launches from the Soviet-built cosmodrome. Russia pays Kazakhstan \$115 million in annual rent for Baikonur under a deal that runs through 2050. □

Del Toro's 'Pacific Rim' resurrects classic Kaiju film

JAKE COYLE

AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The appeal of "Pacific Rim" isn't complicated.

Like the kind of boyhood fantasy that delights in flying men and relishes dreams of dinosaurs, "Pacific Rim," the latest film from director Guillermo Del Toro, is predicated on the simple, childlike thrill of seeing big ol' robots and big

release on July 12, the 25-story-high Kaiju emanate (as is tradition) from the sea one by one, each uniquely grotesque beasts. To combat these monsters and defend the coastlines of the Pacific, equally giant robots called Jaegers are built, each controlled by two brain-connected pilots.

Since he was a child, Del Toro has compulsively

obsessive drawer (he has a book of drawings for every movie he makes), but creating the creatures and robots of "Pacific Rim" meant working in an entirely different scale.

While the Kaiju films of Toho studios were a formative influence on Del Toro, he boxed up his DVDs before starting work on "Pacific Rim," intent on making a movie that wasn't a mere

with fists raised, surrounded by clouds) and George Bellows' visceral boxing paintings of hulking combatants. "I wanted to bring the awe and spectacle of when you watch something so big that the scale is inhuman," says Del Toro. "I kept thinking of the Goya painting because it seemed detached from ethical judgment. It's so beyond human. It's like watching a tornado and a hurricane clash."

Del Toro speaks majestically about monsters and robots, which might sound comical if he wasn't so earnestly heartfelt. With "Pacific Rim," he sought the operatic grandeur of Goya and Bellows, attempting to capture what he calls "a beautiful monster pageantry."

Battles would take place in the middle of the sea, with swirling storms and torrents of water. At Comic-Con last year, Del Toro gleefully labeled his movie "robot porn."

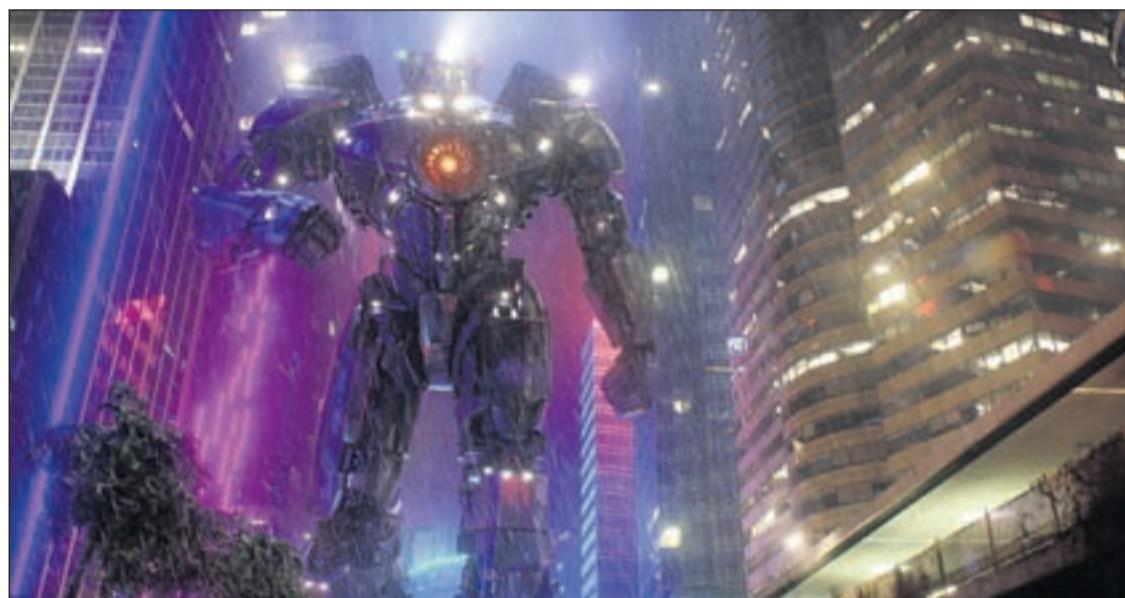
"Guillermo's approach is to just show his passion," says visual effects supervisor John Knoll, the chief creative officer of Industrial Light and Magic. "When everyone on the crew sees how much Guillermo

loves this stuff, how much it means to him, the enthusiasm is contagious."

Del Toro, also a producer and co-screenwriter, worked closely with the effects team at ILM to create the battle sequences between the giant robots and creatures that make up much of the film. It was a particularly challenging project because of the scale involved, in addition to the frequent presence of water — long a computer graphics headache.

"We sort of know how to make things look really big: You slow them down, there are other visual cues you can give it to say this thing is 250 feet tall," says animation director Hal Hickel. "But if everything is moving very slowly, that could potentially be boring. You don't want everything to look like it's in a slow-motion. The trick for us was to move things in a way that suggested their gigantic size and felt kind of realistic-ish, but at the same time was exciting to watch."

The Kaiju film was birthed as a kind of fire-breathing metaphor for nuclear atrocity, with "Godzilla" coming nine years after the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. □



This film publicity image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows the Gipsy Danger robot in a scene from "Pacific Rim."

ol' monsters slug it out. But while summer spectacles have grown ever larger in recent years, the monster movie — the original city-smashing genre — has mostly ceded the multiplexes to superheroes and more apocalyptic disaster films. But 14 years after Roland Emmerich's forgettable "Godzilla" remake, Del Toro's "Pacific Rim" constitutes a large-scale attempt to bring Japan's beloved Kaiju movies — their monster films, of which Ishiro Honda's 1954 "Godzilla" is the most famous — to American shores.

"Monsters have always spoken to a part of me that is really, really essential," Del Toro, the Mexican director of the Oscar-nominated "Pan's Labyrinth," said in a recent interview. "All of my life, I felt out of place. The tragedy of every monster in every movie is that they are out of place. That's the essential plight of monsters."

In the 3-D "Pacific Rim," which Warner Bros. will

drawn monsters, beginning with sketches of the Creature from "Creature from the Black Lagoon" and the Phantom from "Phantom of the Opera." He's still an

homage. Instead, he took inspiration less from Japanese monster films than paintings like Goya's "The Colossus" (which depicts a passing muscular giant,

(AP Photo/Warner Bros. Pictures)

Christie's to sell collection of Kate Moss images

JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Few people have been photographed more often than Kate Moss, and some of the most famous images of the supermodel are going under the hammer at a Christie's auction this fall. The sale, announced Wednesday, includes a shot of Moss encased in bronze glitter by Allen Jones and images by well-known photographers including Annie Leibovitz, Bruce Weber, Mario Testino, Sam Taylor-Wood and Irving Penn.

The works, collectively valued at about 1 million pounds (\$1.52 million), have been assembled by German collector Gert Elfering. He called Moss a "liv-



This image made available by Christie's auction house on Wednesday July 3, 2013 shows an image of British model Kate Moss, 'Kate', 2007 by Chuck Close.

(AP Photo/Christie's)

ing icon."

"Kate is the ultimate modern muse and we will be

seeing her images in major museums and private collections for years to come," he said.

Moss has been a star since she was discovered as a teenager in the late 1980s. Her waif-like looks took fashion by storm, though she has also been criticized for her association with the super-skinny style known as "heroin chic."

Now 39, Moss remains among the world's best-known and best-paid models. Christie's director of photographs Philippe Garner said she was "the greatest icon of style of the modern age."

Lots up for auction include a 1992 image of Moss nude on a couch by Mario Sorrenti, valued at 30,000 pounds to 50,000 pounds

(\$45,000 to \$75,000).

There's also a 2002 image by Craig McDean of Moss wearing a jacket and reading "God Save the Queen," with an estimate of 40,000 pounds to 60,000 pounds (\$60,000 to \$90,000), and a 3-D hologram image on a lightbox by Chris Levine estimated at between 100,000 pounds and 150,000 pounds (\$152,000 and \$227,000).

In addition to photographs, the sale includes a Peter Blake collage, a Jacquard tapestry by Chuck Close and — a must for every living room — an 18-carat gold sculpture of Moss as a naked angel by Nick Knight.

The works will be sold at Christie's in London on Sept. 25. □

'Despicable Me 2': An ex-villain returns as Mr. Sweets



Miranda Cosgrove, a cast member in "Despicable Me 2," poses with minion characters from the film at the American premiere of the film at Universal CityWalk in Universal City, Calif.

(Photo by Chris Pizzello/Invision/AP)

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In its frantic, Looney Tunes-style madness, "Despicable Me 2" brings to mind a cautionary children's story about an aspiring baker who learns the hard way that doubling the recipe for bread doesn't mean doubling the baking time. It tries so hard to double your pleasure that it emerges from the test kitchen slightly burned. Like the jams and jellies that its reformed main character, Gru, makes in his new line of work, the film combines too many flavors, along with extra sugar. Once again, the lesson that more is not necessarily better, something rarely learned by blockbuster sequels, is forgotten. That said, the new movie - concocted by the same hands (the directors Pierre Coffin and Chris Renaud and the screenwriters Ken Daurio and Cinco Paul) who were behind the first "Despicable Me" - is consistently diverting and so cute you'll want to pet it. Yet it is also weightless and lacks a center. Which isn't to deny its inventiveness in imagining zany, whiz-bang gadgetry and its considerable achievement in the creation of a puffed-up Latin American villain who steals the spotlight from Gru (the voice of Steve Carell), the first film's beaky, Shrek-like central

character. Gru has come a long way since he aspired to be the world's worst bad guy in the original movie. His cold heart has thawed since his adoption of three little girls. Despite his funny multinational accent, the reformed Gru is something of a bore. The domestication of this once-fearsome grouch continues in "Despicable Me 2." Gru, with his hearing-impaired mad

scientist partner, Dr. Nefario (Russell Brand), has started a jam-and-jelly business whose tasteless products nobody wants. Just as his operation is about to fail, Gru is hired by the Anti-Villain League to locate a world-class baddie who uses a flying magnet to steal a secret research lab in the Arctic Circle. The lab has perfected a serum that causes grotesque muta-

tions. Gru and his sidekick, the practical, no-nonsense Lucy (Kristen Wiig), pose as store owners in a shopping mall where the stolen serum is thought to be hidden. A prime suspect is Eduardo (Benjamin Bratt), the gregarious, preening owner of the mall's Mexican restaurant, Salsa & Salsa. He bears a suspicious resemblance to El Macho, a legendary outlaw who supposedly died while riding a shark into an active volcano with explosives strapped on his back. Sure enough, they are one and the same. Eduardo's son, Antonio (Moises Arias), who struts around like a shifty-eyed teenage Valentino, takes an instant shine to Gru's eldest daughter, Margo (Miranda Cosgrove), who swoons at the first sight of him. An early sign that Gru has a formidable foe is the capture by magnet of his legion of cute, obedient yellow Minions, whom the serum transforms into an enemy force of fury purple warriors. But like Margo's ill-fated crush, the premise is rushed; an antidote to the serum is concocted almost as soon as the mass abduction takes place. Meanwhile, Gru's youngest

daughter, Agnes (Elsie Fisher), dreams that Lucy might become her new mother. This fantasy is the ickier side of a movie that crosses the line from sweet to saccharine. It is not a good sign for the future of this franchise that "Despicable Me 2" might as well be waving a sign that pleads, "Love me, love me, love me!"

PRODUCTION NOTES:

Directed by Chris Renaud and Pierre Coffin; written by Cinco Paul and Ken Daurio; edited by Gregory Peralta; songs and themes by Pharrell Williams, score by Heitor Pereira; production design by Yarrow Cheney and Eric Guillou; produced by Chris Meledandri and Janet Healy; released by Universal Pictures. Running time: 1 hour, 38 minutes.

WITH THE VOICES OF: Steve Carell (Gru), Kristen Wiig (Lucy), Benjamin Bratt (Eduardo/El Macho), Miranda Cosgrove (Margo), Russell Brand (Dr. Nefario), Steve Coogan (Silas Rambottom), Ken Jeong (Floyd), Elsie Fisher (Agnes), Dana Gaier (Edith) and Moises Arias (Antonio).

"Despicable Me 2" is rated PG (Parental guidance suggested) for rude humor. □

Depp at 50: 'Just happy to still be around'

NICOLE EVATT

Associated Press

SANTA FE, New Mexico (AP) — It may be difficult to separate Johnny Depp from his "Pirates" character Jack Sparrow, but the actor recalls a time before the boozy buccaneer became a household name. "The films that I did prior to 'Pirates,' ... not everything but a lot of it, was sort of by industry standards, not blockbuster stuff. So I wasn't ever blockbuster material," said Depp in a recent interview.

But that's not to say he didn't have fun during those years.

"I've been lucky enough to be involved in some very small and different independent films throughout my career and I've been able to be involved in, you

know, a couple of films that shocked everybody, especially me," he said. Since 2003, Depp has played the flamboyant captain in four hugely suc-

cessful "Pirates of the Caribbean" films, with a fifth installment slated for 2015.



Actor Johnny Depp arrives at the world premiere of "The Lone Ranger" at Disney California Adventure in Anaheim, Calif.

(Photo by Dan Steinberg/Invision/AP)

cessful "Pirates of the Caribbean" films, with a fifth installment slated for 2015.

"The only thing I can equate it with is luck. There's no other reason,"

he said of his career longevity. "The fact that I was able to survive through that 15 years of just bouncing around doing (indie) movies and now still to end up here is amazing."

The Golden Globe-winning actor plays the famed Native American character Tonto in the upcoming Disney reboot of "The Lone Ranger," which is opening Wednesday. He said his children, Lily-Rose, 14, and Jack, 11, can't wait to see it. "They're pretty excited about this one," Depp said while promoting the film in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where part of the movie was filmed. "You know, of course, they thought it was insane when they watched me play Tonto, but now they're looking forward to this one." □

The Zimmerman Trial



CHARLES M. BLOW
© 2013 New York Times

These first weeks of testimony in the George Zimmerman trial has proved to be nothing short of fascinating.

On one level, the case is simple: if Zimmerman had not pursued - some say stalked - Trayvon Martin that dark, rainy night, Martin would still be alive.

That's the logical argument. The legal one is more complex. The case, it seems to me, spins on some crucial questions, some of which we may never completely know the answers to:

What was it about Martin in particular that Zimmerman found "suspicious" in the first place? So far, there has been no testimony that Martin was doing anything other than walking slowly and talking on a phone to a girl, as teenage boys are wont to do. Did Zimmerman consider every person walking thusly in the neighborhood to be suspicious? If not, what made Martin different? Was some sort of bias at play, whether an explicit one or an implicit one?

Why did Zimmerman leave his car, armed with his gun, and follow Martin? When the dispatcher realized that Zimmerman was in pursuit and told him, "We don't need you to do that," did Zimmerman stop? Did Martin know that he was being followed, as his friend Rachel Jeantel testified, and did he feel threatened by the stranger following him?

In fact, the threat levels are a larger, more complex issue altogether.

Who felt threatened, the teenager with the candy and the soda or the man pursuing him with a gun and a live round in the chamber? The answer on the surface would seem obvious, but it's possible that both felt some level of threat. It's also possible that threat responses washed back and forth between them like water in a tub, neither of them knowing about the other what we know now - that Zimmerman was armed and Martin was not.

If Martin was running away, as both Zimmerman has said and Jeantel has testified, did he at

some point stop fleeing, turn and approach Zimmerman?

There has been testimony establishing that there was some sort of verbal interaction between Zimmerman and Martin before a physical one. Who struck the first blow and why? If Martin struck the first blow, as the defense contends, could that be considered an act of self-defense?

Regardless of who struck the first blow, some testimony suggests that Martin was getting the best of Zimmerman. In that scenario, could the right to self-defense switch personage? Florida law seems to suggest it can. The law states that the use of force is not justified when a person "initially provokes the use of force against himself or herself, unless such force is so great that the person reasonably believes that he or she is in imminent danger of death or great bodily harm and that he or she has exhausted every reasonable means to escape such danger other than the use of force which is likely to cause death or great bodily harm to the assailant."

Even assuming that Martin was winning a physical fight with Zimmerman, did Zimmerman "reasonably" believe that he was in "imminent danger of death or great bodily harm"? Zimmerman was injured, but how do you evaluate the degree of those injuries? Independent assessments may or may not deem Zimmerman's injuries severe, but did Zimmerman, in the middle of the fight, believe them to be? Had Zimmerman "exhausted every reasonable means to escape"?

Who was yelling for help? Keep in mind that it is possible to be both winning a fight and simultaneously yelling for help. During opening arguments, John Guy, a prosecutor, stated that investigators found none of Zimmerman's blood on Martin's hands or the cuffs of his sweatshirt. How will the defense explain that?

The bar may be high for the prosecution, but the logic is basic: there has been no suggestion or testimony that Trayvon Martin was doing anything wrong the night that George Zimmerman caught sight of him and grew wary of him, pursued him and came into contact with him. Zimmerman set that night's events in motion and rendered them still with the ring of a gunshot. Now, as Zimmerman sits in a Florida courtroom, Martin sleeps in a Florida grave. We will never hear Martin's side of the story, the level of his fear or the feel of the bullet ripping through his body.

Morally, Zimmerman is by no means without guilt. Legally, it remains to be seen whether he will be found guilty of second-degree murder. □



America: Expect The Unexpected-Really?



GAIL COLLINS
© 2013 New York Times

Every once in a while, something happens that challenges your entire view of the order of the universe. For instance, this week the U.S. Senate actually passed something. Meanwhile, in Texas, liberal Democrats and the abortion rights movement won a huge political victory.

If we keep this up, soon we will hear that in Africa, migrating herds of wildebeests stopped moving and began settling into trailer parks.

Let's take a look at Texas, where the now-famous 11-hour filibuster by State Sen. Wendy Davis defeated a major anti-abortion bill, lifted the long-dead spirit of the state's Democrats and created many news articles in which the word "thrilling" was coupled with "state Senate."

The next day, however, Gov. Rick Perry announced that he was calling a new special session to take up the bill again.

"We Democrats are strategizing," Davis said in a phone interview, declining to go into details.

Perhaps she can pull out her pink sneakers and filibuster for two or three weeks. There actually was a state senator in Texas, back in 1977, who stood and talked for 43 hours, using what he called "an astronaut bag" to answer the problem of bathroom breaks.

I wouldn't count on it. But that doesn't mean we didn't see something important happen in Austin.

The Texas anti-abortion tear has followed the same arc as in many other states. First came the assumption that women just needed to have the situation explained to them.

So the Legislature required them to look at an ultrasound of the fetus before any abortion. The law didn't have much impact, so the lawmakers moved on to Stage 2: Remove the option.

The bill that failed to get passed in Austin this week would have banned abortions after 20 weeks. Meanwhile, the clinics that perform early-term abortions would have been subject to new health and safety requirements that would force most of them to close.

"We're really regulated already," said Amy Hagstrom Miller, who runs five abortion facilities in the state.

"Primarily what we're talking about in this bill is the physical plant - the size of the hallways, locker rooms, closets."

She estimates that it would cost, at minimum, \$4.5 million to bring her facilities up to the new, unnecessary code.

The bill also requires that doctors performing abortions have hospital-admitting privileges within 30 miles of the clinic in question. In many places, that can't be gotten.

"Most hospitals want you to admit at least 10 patients a year," Miller said. "Over the last 10 years, I've had two emergency transfers from our facility in Austin."

This has been going on all over the country, and if the high drama in the state Senate in Texas does nothing beyond making the story clear, it'll have done a lot.

In Austin, as in state capitols from North Dakota to Alabama, the bill was described in debates as a simple public safety measure. ("I am trying to look at what can actually improve the quality of care....") But there wasn't all that

much effort to conceal that the real intent was eliminating the abortion option.

Americans have conflicted attitudes toward this issue, but one thing that's consistently clear is that they don't want a wholesale abortion ban. Politicians like Perry will only get their way if the public doesn't get the point.

Ditto on family planning. As part of a scorched-earth war against Planned Parenthood, Texas wiped out funds for contraceptive services for poor women.

"The damage has been wrought, and it's going to take a long time to undo it," said Davis.

When she brought that up during her filibuster, the lieutenant governor ruled she had strayed from the point.

Texas Democrats, who haven't won a statewide race in two decades, are now eyeing Davis as a possible gubernatorial candidate in 2014. Perry took time out to attack her during a speech in Dallas to the right-to-life movement, which we will try to resist noting took place the day after Texas conducted its 500th modern-era execution.

Perry claimed that in fighting for abortion rights, Davis, the daughter of a single mother and herself a single mother at 19 who got herself through college and Harvard Law, "hasn't learned from her own example."

You will not be stunned to hear that Davis takes a different lesson from her story.

"The Planned Parenthood clinic on Henderson Street in Fort Worth was my sole source of health care for 4 to 5 years when I was a young adult," she said.

"Consider a 19-year-old single mom who wants to be smarter about her family planning so she can go to school and move forward with her career. Had I not had those services available to me, I would not be standing where I am today."

Let the country tune in on that debate, and then we'll have a real leap forward. □

Chanel and Armani evoke old world and new

THOMAS ADAMSON

AP Fashion Writer

PARIS (AP) — "Fashion is the only thing that can travel ... from the old world to the new," proclaimed Karl Lagerfeld. And on the second day of haute couture shows, Chanel's showman couturier made his point with aplomb: he delivered the words from the stage of an old, decayed opera house standing next to pop star Rihanna.

As ever, the master designer stole the show, with Tuesday's most impressive couture display. His creations glittered in dramatic con-

old Hollywood while still remaining modern. Stephane Rolland, too, cited old masters such as Velazquez as muses for a strong show, but pulled off looks with a modern elegance.

Haute couture itself dates back over 150 years and is steeped in history. But the hurdle for designers is to keep the looks fresh while also keeping the artisan-based method of making clothes alive and relevant.

CHANEL

The setting saw Lagerfeld carry off a dark, expressionist-tinged fall-winter

The 67 very wearable looks had some notable features, such as wide, often shiny, belt bands that strapped across at the hip, and mosaic patterns. Instead of boots, Lagerfeld put legs inside "stocking shoes," attached up the leg with a garter like lingerie. Jackets sometimes had strong, menswear shoulders which contrasted with tight feminine dress sleeves. And skirts were layered upon skirts to produce different directions of movement.

One fantastic tweed-style gray coat was constructed

Lang moment."

ARMANI PRIVE

Giorgio Armani seemed to strip the body bare in a classic couture collection Tuesday that came with a twist and was entitled simply, "Nude."

The checkered runway in pearly hues of yellow, pink and beige set the mood for the nude-toned musings for fall-winter 2013. The colors recurred on the 52 creations, all of which were constructed with a delicate femininity.

The Armani Prive show made its statement in skin-

short wavy hair. One look that had a soft floppy bow tied on the top of high-waisted trousers could have been worn by Katherine Hepburn.

BOUCHRA JARRAR

The museum of sculptor Antoine Bourdelle was a magnificent backdrop for the sculptural creations conjured up by lauded Moroccan-born designer Bouchra Jarrar.

Models in ivory, pink and jet-black wandered among Bourdelles' private collection of bronze and marble figures, creating a visually dramatic scene.

Fabric woven tightly round the neck and held with silver clasps, at times, felt as carved as the marble artwork itself.

But the stronger work was found in the three-part silk dresses in pink crepe, black georgette and ivory "charmeuse." They fluttered by like butterflies.

STEPHANE ROLLAND

"Austere, but sensuous," were the words the program notes used to describe Stephane Rolland's dark and luxuriant couture display, which continued in the elegant footsteps of last season.

Deep midnight blue produced a classy silk crepe jumpsuit with a billowing black satin module that evoked the fuzzy brush-strokes of a painter.

Indeed, the Spanish royal court's master painter Diego Velazquez was one of the inspirations behind this collection.

Thirty-three creations saw Rolland using black, flowing capes to get this regal message across, as well as hanging lengths of rippling silks that conjured up the idea of nobility or time-old queenliness through the material's simple, natural luxury.

Though the collection was not ground-breaking, it confirms that the normally glitzy and glam designer, who's known for dressing red-carpet celebrities, is moving in a welcome, more elegant direction. □



A model wears a creation by French fashion Stephane Rolland's Haute Couture Fall-Winter 2013-2014 collection presented Tuesday, July 2, 2013 in Paris.

trast with the broken-down theater, recreated inside Paris' Grand Palais. Faded grimy curtains, old wooden stalls, and some classic clothing styles mixed alongside futuristic streaks of silver embroideries and cosmic-looking hats. Fashion, it seemed to say, lives in the past and the future. A similar message ran throughout the day of shows, with Italian designer Giorgio Armani delivering a stylish collection that evoked the sensuality of

2013 collection, which began with an image of a futuristic metropolis beamed onto the old, nostalgic theatre wall.

When the models appeared, the contrasts continued: the first chic series of A-line skirt suit-styles were twinned with Grace Jones-style space-age hair. Intergalactic square hats that were attached at the back of the head seemed to float like a geometric halo, in a great anachronism.

with one long piece of material, half of which went down, and the other half hooped back up to create a voluminous silhouette.

At the end, a creation perfectly showed Lagerfeld's expressionist mood. A long, black diaphanous silk dress was streaked with shards of fractured and glimmering silver. Was this musing inspired by the dark landscape of legendary filmmaker Fritz Lang?

"You know," Lagerfeld said. "My whole life is a Fritz

colored fine organzas, lace and tulles, which exposed much skin.

At times, the material seemed to simply melt into the models' flesh.

But the show, for the most part, remained relatively classical, and several creations had the refined look of old-school Hollywood glamor.

Loose, pleated pants combined with high shoulders in marabou feathers cut a striking 1930s silhouette along with the models'

(AP Photo/Francois Mori)